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COUNTY OF PEEBLES  
AND BURGHS OF  
PEEBLES AND INNERLEITHEN

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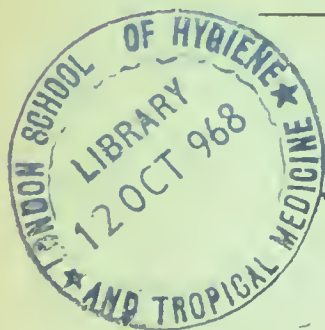
# Annual Report

*by the*

Medical Officer of Health

AND

County Sanitary Inspector



Year 1967



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# Annual Report

*by the*

Medical Officer of Health  
AND  
County Sanitary Inspector

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Year 1967

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# STAFF

## JOINTLY WITH MIDLOTHIAN COUNTY COUNCIL AND SMALL BURGHS AUTHORITIES

### Medical Officer of Health:

JOHN RIDDELL, O.B.E., M.D., D.P.H.

### Depute Medical Officer of Health :

LEWIS F. HOWITT, M.B., Ch.B., D.P.H.

## JOINTLY WITH MIDLOTHIAN COUNTY COUNCIL.

### Senior Assistant Medical Officer:

ANDREW F. HUTCHISON, M.B., B.S., D.T.M.&H., D.P.H.

### Medical Officers:

JEANETTE B. MORRISON, L.R.C.P. & L.R.C.S.(Edin.), C.P.H.

MARGARET MCKENZIE, L.R.C.P. & L.R.C.S.(Edin.), C.P.H.

MAIRI H. LACK, M.B., Ch.B., D.P.H.

EILEEN REDDY, L.R.C.P. & L.R.C.S.(Edin.), D.P.H.

ELIZABETH M. WATSON, M.B., Ch.B., D.P.H.

BETTY EMSLIE, M.B., Ch.B.

CLAIRE KISELY, L.R.C.P., L.R.C.S.(Edin.)

### Chief Dental Officer:

ROBERT P. NEILSON, O.B.E., L.D.S.

### Dental Officers:

JOHN W. SWAN, L.D.S.

J. B. CLARK, L.D.S.

NORMAN P. THOMSON, B.D.S.

K. S. MACPHAIL, L.D.S.

B. W. H. MACLEAN, L.D.S.

R. W. BRAZENALL, L.D.S.

\*T. MACLAREN, L.D.S.

R. A. HODGKINS, L.D.S.

F. C. ROGERS, L.D.S.

S. W. RICHARDSON, B.D.S.

H. M. MACKINTOSH, L.D.S.

†\*J. C. CLARKE, L.D.S.

### County Nursing Superintendent and Supervisor of Midwives:

JEAN M. TINCH, R.G.N., S.C.M., H.V., Q.N.

### Deputy County Nursing Superintendent:

GEORGINA MCCANN, R.G.N., S.C.M., H.V., Q.N.

### Senior Health Visitor:

ROBINA CAMPBELL, R.G.N., S.C.M., H.V., Q.N.

### Head Social Worker

ELIZ. L. GILROY, M.A., A.I.M.S.W.

### Mental Health Officer:

WM. H. WALLACE, S.R.N., S.R.M.N.

### Superintendent Physiotherapist:

CHAS. A. MACMILLAN, M.C.S.P.

### Administrative Officer:

ROBERT FULTON, C.P.A.

Social Workers	..	....	2(†1)	Dental Auxiliary	....	1(*1†1)
Physiotherapists	....	....	6	Dental Surgery Assistants	13(*2†3)	
Office Staff	....	....	16(*5†5)	Occupational Therapists	(*4)	
Milk Officers	....	....	3(*1†1)			

\*Resigned during year.

\*Appointed during year.

## STAFF—*Continued*

### Consultants

#### Chest Physician

K. MURRAY, M.B., Ch.B., M.R.C.P.(E)

#### Orthodontic Surgeon

W. RUSSELL LOGAN, O.B.E., L.R.C.P. & S. (Ed.), F.D.S., H.D.D.

#### Ophthalmic Surgeon

W. O. PETRIE, M.B.E., M.B., Ch.B., D.P.M., D.T.M. & H.

#### Dental Anaesthetist

G. MACGREGOR ROSE, L.R.C.P., L.R.C.S.(E.), L.D.S., D.A.

### PEEBLES COUNTY

#### County Sanitary Inspector :

I. R. M. GUTHRIE.

#### Assistant Sanitary Inspector :

JOHN B. FORREST

#### Meat Inspectors (Part time) :

P. J. WILSON, M.R.C.V.S.

DUNCAN ROBERTSON, M.R.C.V.S

#### Health Visitor :

MARGARET C. P. ROSS, R.G.N., S.C.M., H.V.

#### Health Visitor—District Nurse Midwives :

\*MAGGIE S. RAMAGE, R.G.N., S.C.M., Q.N.

JANET T. STARK, R.G.N., S.C.M., Q.N.

HEATHER M. HERSCHELL, R.G.N., S.C.M., H.V., Q.N.

\*BARBARA DYER, S.R.N., S.C.M., H.V., Q.N.

#### District Nurse Midwives :

FINELLA MACLEOD, R.G.N., S.C.M., Q.N.

VIOLET A. TURNER, R.G.N., S.C.M., Q.N.

#### District Nurse:

ISABELLA ANGUS, R.G.N., S.C.M., Q.N.

### Consultant

#### Orthopaedic Surgeon

G. W. BAKER, M.B., Ch.B., F.R.C.S.(E.), M.Ch. Orth.

### PEEBLES BURGH

#### Burgh Surveyor and Sanitary Inspector :

E. S. DUNCAN.

### INNERLEITHEN BURGH

#### Burgh Surveyor and Sanitary Inspector:

ANDREW FAIRNIE

\*Resigned during year.

†Appointed during year



## P R E F A C E

Much thought has been given during 1967 to the future of the Health and Welfare services. Following the Kilbrandon Report in 1964 the Government produced a White Paper and later a Bill entitled the Social Work (Scotland) Bill. The purpose of this was to concentrate the staff employed in social work activities even although at the same time it divorced the Social Work from the Health Services, something entirely against the obvious trends of recent years. Writing in November, 1966, I said, "This (White) Paper might vitally affect the form of future Local Government. At the present time there are two schools of thought with regard to the Public Health service. One holds that there should be an extension of the present principle of integration of Health and Welfare, with the General Practitioner and Hospital services being included more and more. The other holds that Welfare and Health should be separated and Public Health staffs transferred to be integrated with their General Practitioner and Hospital colleagues under Area Health Boards. If Local Authorities at this stage set up Social Welfare Departments independent of the Health Departments a long step will have been taken in this latter direction." Local Authorities unfortunately largely remained passive.

In due course the Royal Commission on Local Government in Scotland took evidence and the Secretary of State announced that there was to be a review of the National Health Service. The inevitable progression thus became more clear and there has been no reason to change my former view. When the present public health service was first set up it was because the health and social services otherwise provided were inadequate. During the intervening years first class work has been done and progress achieved. This is excellently covered by Mr Guthrie in the opening remarks of his sanitary services report; and he shows how much work is still required in this field to maintain our gains. The flow of new regulations is constant! New methods such as bulk tank storage and "moo-tel" housing for cattle are always appearing and raising new problems to be overcome. But the personal and research work of the Local Authority preventive service is now in its turn not meeting the present day need and transfer of responsibility is again about due to take place.

### Population

During 1967 the population of Peeblesshire continued to fall in the landward area. The general death rate was slightly lower, but the number of infant deaths increased slightly. Deaths from malignant disease rose from 30 to 47, but those due to defects in the heart and circulation fell from 123 to 88. This is in interesting

contrast to the position in Midlothian where deaths from malignancies increased and those from heart and circulatory defects fell.

### **Immunisation and Vaccination**

The County maintained a very satisfactory level with 84 per cent. of children under 16 years of age being protected against smallpox, 91 per cent. against diphtheria, whooping cough and tetanus, and 88 per cent. against polio. It is interesting to note that the proportion of primary protection given by general practitioners was 87 per cent. for smallpox, 90 per cent. for diphtheria, whooping cough and tetanus, and 90 per cent. for polio. No group was given special attention for immunisation against tetanus alone.

### **Infectious Disease**

The incidence of infectious disease was small with no serious outbreaks. Once again, however, the tuberculosis incidence was unchanged, the further fall which we have been looking for, not materialising. On the other hand, it was encouraging to note that only 12 per cent. of the 14 year old group skin tested were positive this year.

### **Health Education**

Considerable attention continued to be paid to this by all branches of the service and details of the talks given and numbers attending are to be found in the body of the Report. The running of training courses by the new Scottish Council for Health Education is anticipated greatly. Instruction as to how best to "put across" our message is very greatly needed.

### **General Practice attachments**

This development which is receiving much publicity has been tried out experimentally with a few practices in Midlothian. As might be expected, experience shows that three requirements are essential—adequate staff, infrequent change of staff, and nurses and doctors who are keen to make this experiment work. Much more study is required before it can be accepted as the best method of providing domiciliary care.

### **Physiotherapy Services**

Reorganisation of the Physiotherapy Service was completed during the year and sessions were divided equally between Local Authority and Borders Hospitals Board. Domiciliary treatments were maintained for recent stroke and fracture cases but under the auspices of the Board of Management, and family doctors and hospital staff continue to refer patients in this category.

Our physiotherapist continues to help the residents in our Old People's Home and the handicapped children attending Dalkeith swimming pool.

### **Handicapped Persons**

The Training Centre at Eastgate Hall, taking both mentally and physically handicapped persons, was in operation throughout the

year and has been a considerable success. This is largely due to the enthusiasm, skill and untiring efforts of the Supervisor and the voluntary staffs. More accommodation is urgently necessary and this is having the attention of the appropriate Committee.

The occupational therapy service unfortunately by the end of the year had collapsed completely through the loss of all four of our Occupational Therapists and total failure to replace. The totally housebound have been seriously affected by this.

During 1967 the Mental Health Officer was sent on a year's training course and his work has been shared out among the other three Social Workers. The work of this section increased considerably during the year with the referral to Miss Gilroy in Peeblesshire of 38 cases.

### **Old People's Welfare**

Meals on Wheels kept busy and the number of chiropody treatments given either at Clinics, the Old Folk's Home or by domiciliary visit also increased.

Progress with the provision of additional residential accommodation for old people was slow and the waiting list increased slightly, but movement is now apparent, and we are feeling somewhat more cheerful.

### **Research**

It has been realised for a considerable time that the type of work being carried out by the District Nursing Sisters has been steadily changing for various reasons. Because of this we have been keeping special records of the work done in this field since 1958, and the year following the publication of the Report on Home Nursing in Scotland by the Scottish Home and Health Department we decided to publish our own results. These were broken down into two periods, 1958-61 and 1962-65 for comparative purposes. The results found were of considerable interest and after publication of the findings in "The Medical Officer" enquiries were received from various places in England and Wales.

The Department also co-operated in two National studies—The National Survey of Childhood Cancer conducted by the Department of Social Medicine, Oxford University, and the Nutrition Survey of pre-school Children under the auspices of the Scottish Home and Health Department and Ministry of Health.

### **Acknowledgments**

In the present Report an attempt has been made to give as comprehensive a picture as possible. For this reason there are incorporated details of much work which is not the responsibility of the Health Committee. I am, for example, indebted to Miss Sinclair, Children's Officer, for the particulars relevant to the work of the Joint Children's Committee, to the Medical Superintendents of the Mental Hospitals for their statistics, Dr Wilson for bacteriology, Dr Lees for venereal disease, the Red Cross Society for chiropody,

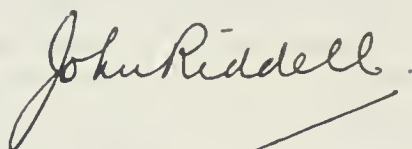
Mr Muir, County Welfare Officer, and Burgh Sanitary Inspectors, as well as Dr Howitt and Heads of Sections in the Health and Welfare Departments, for the information supplied or collated by them. Mr Guthrie's report speaks for itself.

Without the assistance of innumerable voluntary workers in our child welfare clinics, for welfare foods distribution, for the chiropody clinics, and for distribution of meals on wheels, our services would be immeasurably poorer.

The Health Committee and the various officials in the County and and Burghs who assisted us so much during the year also deserve our thanks.

The support given by the " Peeblesshire News and Advertiser " is excellent.

Finally, I would personally thank all the members of the Health Department Staff—clerical, nursing, dental, medical, welfare and sanitary—for the enthusiastic manner in which they have carried out their duties. It has been a heavy year and they have done well.

A handwritten signature in cursive script, reading "John Riddell". The signature is written in dark ink and is followed by a horizontal line.

*Medical Officer of Health.*

HEALTH DEPARTMENT,  
10 DRUMSHEUGH GARDENS,  
EDINBURGH, 3.

*3rd May, 1968.*



# COUNTY OF PEEBLES

## VITAL STATISTICS, YEAR 1967

	Peebles County	Inner- leithen Burgh	Peebles Burgh	Land- ward Area
Population, Census, 1961 .....	14,117	2,299	5,545	6,273
Population estimated, 1967 (June)....	13,502	2,243	5,512	5,747
Live Births (corrected) .....	215	31	90	94
Illegitimate Births (corrected) .....	9	1	4	4
Still Births (corrected) .....	4	—	3	1
Deaths (corrected) .....	184	25	86	73
Deaths under 1 year (corrected) .....	5	1	1	3
Marriages Registered .....	95	14	51	30

## BIRTH AND DEATH RATES

(Landward and Burghal) per 1,000 of Population

	1967.	1966.	Scotland*
Birth Rate (corrected) .....	15.9	14.8	18.3
Death Rate All Causes (corrected) .....	13.6	14.9	11.4
Death Rate Tuberculosis (corrected) .....	0.07	0.00	0.03
Infantile Mortality Rate per 1,000 live Births .....	23.0	15.0	19.0
Stillbirth Rate per 1,000 total births .....	18.0	—	15.0

\* Excluding Cities and Large Burghs.

## AGES AT DEATH

Number of Deaths in the various age groups during 1967:

	Peebles County	Innerleithen Burgh	Peebles Burgh	Landward Area
Under 4 weeks .....	5	1	1	3
4 weeks—1 year .....	—	—	—	—
1—4 years .....	3	—	—	3
5—9 .....	1	—	1	—
10—14 .....	1	—	—	1
15—24 .....	4	—	2	2
25—34 .....	2	—	1	1
35—44 .....	3	2	1	—
45—54 .....	11	2	8	1
55—64 .....	20	3	8	9
65—74 .....	63	10	27	26
75—84 .....	49	7	22	20
85 and over .....	22	—	15	7
All Ages .....	184	25	86	73

## Infantile Mortality

Deaths classified according to age groups:

	Under 1 week	1 to 4 weeks	1 to 3 months	3 to 6 months	6 to 12 months	Total
Respiratory Distress Syndrome .....	2	—	—	—	—	2
Prematurity .....	2	—	—	—	—	2
Pneumothorax .....	1	—	—	—	—	1
Total .....	5	—	—	—	—	5

CAUSES OF DEATH	Peebles County	Inner- leithen Burgh	Peebles Burgh	Land- ward
Tuberculosis of respiratory system	1	—	1	—
Tuberculosis other forms	—	—	—	—
Syphilis and its sequelae	—	—	—	—
Dysentery all forms	—	—	—	—
Whooping Cough	—	—	—	—
Meningococcal Infections	—	—	—	—
Acute Poliomyelitis	—	—	—	—
Measles	—	—	—	—
Other Infective and Parasitic Diseases	2	—	1	1
Malignant Neoplasms of Respiratory System	9	—	4	5
Malignant Neoplasms of Lymph and Haemo Tissues	3	1	1	1
Other Malignant Neoplasms	35	5	16	14
Benign and Unspecified Neoplasms	—	—	—	—
Diabetes Mellitus	3	—	2	1
Anaemias	—	—	—	—
Other General Diseases	1	—	1	—
Vascular Lesions affecting central Nervous System	30	5	15	10
Non-Meningococcal Meningitis	—	—	—	—
Other Diseases of Nervous System	—	—	—	—
Rheumatic Fever	—	—	—	—
Chronic Rheumatic Heart Disease	2	1	—	1
Arteriosclerotic Heart Disease including Coronary	39	7	14	18
Degenerative Heart Disease	6	—	3	3
Other Diseases of Heart	2	—	1	1
Hypertensive Heart Disease	5	1	3	1
Other Hypertensive Disease	—	—	—	—
Other Circulatory Disease	4	1	2	1
Influenza	—	—	—	—
Pneumonia	13	—	9	4
Bronchitis	4	—	3	1
Other Respiratory Diseases	4	1	2	1
Ulcer of Stomach and Duodenum	1	—	1	—
Appendicitis	—	—	—	—
Intestinal Obstruction and Hernia	4	2	2	—
Gastritis and Duodenitis Diarrhoea (except of newborn)	1	—	1	—
Cirrhosis of Liver	1	—	—	1
Other Diseases of Liver	—	—	—	—
Other Digestive Diseases	—	—	—	—
Nephritis and Nephrosis	2	—	1	1
Hyperplasia of Prostate	—	—	—	—
Infections of Kidney	—	—	—	—
Other Diseases of Genito Urinary System	—	—	—	—
Complications of Pregnancy Childbirth and Puerperium	—	—	—	—
Diseases of Skin and Organs of Locomotion	—	—	—	—
Congenital Malformations of nervous system and sense organs	—	—	—	—
Congenital Malformations of Circulatory system	1	—	—	1
Other Congenital Malformations	—	—	—	—
Birth Injuries, Post Natal Asphyxia and Atelectasis	3	1	1	1
Infections of the Newborn	—	—	—	—
Other Diseases peculiar to early Infancy	1	—	—	1
Senility	1	—	—	1
Cause ill-defined and unknown	—	—	—	—
Motor Vehicle Accidents	3	—	1	2
Other Road Transport Accidents	—	—	—	—
Accidents in the home	2	—	—	2
Other Violence	—	—	—	—
Suicide	1	—	1	—
All Causes	184	25	86	73

## NURSING ESTABLISHMENT

The Centres and duties of nurses are as follows:

Area.	No.		Duties.				Car
		of Nurses.	Mid-wifery	Home Nursing	Health Visiting	School Nursing	
West Linton ....	1						1
Broughton ....	1		"	"	"	"	1
Innerleithen ....	1		"	"	"	"	—
Walkerburn ....	1		"	"	"	"	1
Peebles ....	1		"	"	—	—	1
Peebles ....	1		—	"	—	—	—
Peebles ....	1		—	—	"	"	1

## MATERNITY AND CHILD WELFARE

### Maternity Services

The number of mothers having home confinement has decreased considerably in recent years—1954, 26; 1964, 3; 1965, 2; 1966, 3; 1967, nil. While it remains essential to have midwives available there is less need for all members of nursing staff to be qualified to act as midwives.

### Ante-Natal and Post-Natal Clinics

No such clinics are held under Local Authority auspices but members of nursing staff attend clinics in the county as follows—

INNERLEITHEN—G. P. Clinic. DN/M attends (began December)—1 mother attended.

WEST LINTON—G.P. Clinic DN/M/HV attends.—14 mothers attended.—38 sessions were held.

PEEBLES MATERNITY HOSPITAL—Health Visitor gives courses of instruction on Mothercraft and Relaxation to mothers attending.

### Expectant and Nursing Mothers

Mr Neilson, Chief Dental Officer reports as follows: The demand rate for treatment by expectant and nursing mothers in Peeblesshire has always been rather disappointing and even more so in recent years. This scheme was introduced in a modest way in 1952 when 9 patients sought treatment. The annual demand rate has fluctuated from year to year and reached an all time "high" of 42 in 1955 and again in 1957, since when it has gradually dwindled. In May, 1961, entirely free treatment facilities, including provision of dentures for expectant and nursing mothers, became available in the General Dental Practitioner Service and it is assumed that the majority of eligible mothers now take full advantage of this service.

Throughout 1967 only one expectant and three nursing mothers presented at the clinics for dental inspection and treatment and the work carried out for this small group is detailed hereunder.

## Inspection

	Number Examined		With Dental Defects		Offered Treatment	
	Ante Natal	Post Natal	Ante Natal	Post Natal	Ante Natal	Post Natal
Mobile Unit	1	1	1	1	1	1
St Ronan's	—	2	—	2	—	2
Total	1	3	1	3	1	3

## Treatment

Number of First Visits	(a) Ante-natal	1
	(b) Post-natal	3
Number of Attendances		11
Fillings		2
Extractions		3
General Anaesthetics		—
Other Operations		10
Dentures—		
Fitted		1
Repaired		1
* Sessions devoted to inspection and treatment		13

\* This estimated figure also includes the time devoted to pre-school work because both mothers and pre-school children are for reasons of economy, inter-mixed when undergoing treatment at Maternity and Child Welfare Clinics.

## Domiciliary Maternity Cases

Nil

## Ante-natal and Post-natal care given by local authority midwives to Hospital booked cases etc.

Ante-natal—Hospital booked cases	....	....	....	....	....	....	18
—Domiciliary booked cases transferred to hospital care or admitted to hospital in emergency	....	....	....	....	....	....	1
							19
Post-natal—Cases delivered in hospital and attended by local authority midwives on discharge	....	....	....	....	....	....	3
							22

	1967	1966
Domiciliary confinement	—	4
Domiciliary ante-natal care—hospital confinement—		
(emergency)—Toxaemia	—	1
Ruptured membranes	—	1
Premature Labour	—	1
Domiciliary ante-natal care—case originally booked for home confinement—booking later transferred to hospital	1	—
Domiciliary ante-natal care—case booked for hospital confinement	18	18
No. of outfits issued	—	4



## Period under Ante-natal supervision

Type of Case		Period under ante-natal supervision in weeks									Total
		0	1-4	5-8	9-12	13-16	17-20	21-24	25-28	29-32	
Domiciliary confinement	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	
Domiciliary ante-natal care — hospital admission — transfer	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	1	
Domiciliary ante-natal care — hospital confinement booked	—	2	3	1	4	2	2	2	2	18	

Details of analgesia, etc., administered during the year—

Nil

## Births (adjusted for mothers' residence)

					Live births	Still-births	Total
(a) Domiciliary births	....	....	....	....	—	—	—
(b) Hospital births*	....	....	....	....	214	3	217
					<u>214</u>	<u>3</u>	<u>217</u>
*Peebles War Memorial Hospital	....	....	....	....	129	—	129
Elsie Inglis Hospital, Edinburgh	....	....	....	....	3	—	3
Eastern General Hospital, Edinburgh	....	....	....	....	1	—	1
Simpson Maternity Hospital, Edinburgh	....	....	....	....	54	3	57
Western General Hospital, Edinburgh	....	....	....	....	5	—	5
Lockhart Hospital, Lanark	....	....	....	....	11	—	11
William Smellie Hospital, Lanark	....	....	....	....	11	—	11
					<u>214</u>	<u>3</u>	<u>217</u>

## Premature Births

Number of premature births, i.e., where birth weight is 5 lb. 8 oz. or less (as adjusted by any notification of transfer in or out of the area).

### Premature live births

Weight at Birth	Born in Hospital		Nursed entirely at home or in a private maternity home		Premature stillbirths born in hospital
	Total Births	Died in 1 and under 7 days	Total Births	Died within 24 hours of birth	
2 lb. 3 oz. or less	—	—	—	—	—
Over 2 lb. 3 oz. up to and including 3 lb. 4 oz.	2	1	—	—	1
Over 3 lb. 4 oz. up to and including 4 lb. 6 oz.	4	—	—	—	1
Over 4 lb. 6 oz. up to and including 4 lb. 15 oz.	3	1	—	—	—
Over 4 lb. 15 oz. up to and including 5 lb. 8 oz.	1	—	—	—	—
Total	10	2	—	—	2

## Child Welfare Clinics

(a) The following Clinics were provided by the Local Authority:

PEEBLES—Hay Lodge—alternate Tuesdays—2 p.m.-4 p.m.

INNERLEITHEN—St Ronan's Secondary School—alternate Thursdays—2 p.m.-4 p.m.

WEST LINTON—General Practitioner's Surgery—every 4th Thursday—2 p.m.-4 p.m.

BROUGHTON—Clinic, Nurse's Cottage—Thursdays—2 p.m.-4 p.m.

	Broughton	Innerleithen	Peebles	West Linton
Sessions held by—				
Doctor ....	12	11	23	11
Health Visitor ....	27	16	1	1
Children attending—				
Born 1967 ....	24	22	40	9
Born 1966 ....	9	24	47	11
Born 1962-1965 ....	17	15	70	10
Revisits—				
Born 1967 ....	90	63	78	17
Born 1962-1966 ....	51	202	151	18
Average number in attendance per clinic ....	5	12	16	6

(b) No Clinics were provided by Voluntary Bodies.

## Welfare Foods

National Dried Milk and Vitamin preparations are distributed by the Health Visitors and at the following Centres:

PEEBLES—Chambers Institute—Thursday, 2 p.m.-4 p.m. Child Welfare Clinic, Hay Lodge—alternate Tuesdays, 2 p.m.-4 p.m.

INNERLEITHEN—Child Welfare Clinic—alternate Thursdays, 2 p.m.-4 p.m.

WALKERBURN—Nurse's House, 1 Jubilee Road.

WEST LINTON—District Council Office—each Tuesday, 2 p.m.-4 p.m.

BROUGHTON—Nurse's Cottage—each Thursday, 2.30 p.m.-4 p.m.

TRAQUAIR—Post Office—daily.

Fortunately all the voluntary workers who have given their time so generously to this purpose for many years, continued to "carry on." Without their help we would have been in a very difficult position and we are correspondingly indebted to them. The average weekly uptake in the County during the year was:

National Dried Milk ....	31 tins	Cod Liver Oil ....	4 bottles
A. & D. ....	90 tablets	Orange Juice ....	56 bottles

## At Risk Register

The number of children on this Register at the end of the year was:

Born 1967, 13; Born 1966, 30; Born 1965, 5; Born 1964, 4; Born 1963, 7; Total 59.

## Dental—

### Pre-School Children

Mr Neilson reports as follows: The Annual Report on the Maternity and Child Welfare Dental Service is rather a disappointing and somewhat depressing assignment each year in contrast with the School Health Report, because the pre-school population and mothers together make an infinitesimal demand for dental examination and treatment, whereas there is an insatiable demand from school children. It is suggested that this vast difference arises from the fact, that in the case of school children, the local authority takes the initiative in arranging systematic school dental inspections, the parents being notified subsequently if treatment is required; but the initiative to seek dental examination of pre-school children is left to the parents unless the children are referred by medical or nursing colleagues. It is unfortunately true that in the absence of any obvious dental defect, very few parents seek dental advice unless obliged to do so for the relief of pain.

The average number of births in Peeblesshire during the five years 1962-66 inclusive was 212, the average number of pre-school children dentally examined, and comprising all toddler age groups, was only 116, which suggests that a very high proportion of the children were either dentally sound, under private practitioner care, or were deprived of remedial treatment.

During the past year only 71 pre-school children from the whole County area were presented for examination compared with 78 the previous year. 7 Children (9·86%) were found to be dentally sound and 64 (91·14%) had defective teeth and were offered treatment. Throughout the year 67 children made 127 clinic attendances for treatment—this figure includes cases carried forward from 1966—and by the end of December, 61 children had been made dentally fit. Treatment for the remainder will be completed early in 1968.

Details of Inspection and Treatment are set out hereunder:

### Inspection

Age	Numbers Examined				With Defects				Offered Treatment			
	2	3	4	Total	2	3	4	Total	2	3	4	Total
Mobile Unit	—	5	—	5	—	5	—	5	—	5	—	5
Peebles High	3	5	29	37	2	5	25	32	2	5	25	32
St Ronan's	2	1	7	10	2	1	6	9	2	1	6	9
Various Day Schools	—	10	9	19	—	9	9	18	—	9	9	18
Total	5	21	45	71	4	20	40	64	4	20	40	64

### Treatment

First Visits	67
Attendances	127
Fillings	59
Extractions	89
General Anaesthetics	20
Other Operations	66

## Eyes

NO PRE-SCHOOL CHILDREN WERE REFERRED FOR VISUAL DEFECT

Ear, Nose and Throat—No information available as to children treated.

Speech—No pre-school children were referred to the Speech Therapist.

Ultra-Violet Light Treatment—No children treated.

Orthopaedic—Five pre-school children were seen by the Orthopaedic Surgeon, all of them being given domiciliary care, or being treated at local clinics. At the end of the year there were 9 pre-school children on the register.

## NURSERIES AND HOMES

### Residential Nurseries and Children's Homes

There are no such Homes in the County.

### Nurseries and Child Minders Regulation Act, 1948

#### Premises:

Registered at 31st December, 1967	....	....	....	....	....	1
Number of places approved	....	....	....	....	....	17

#### Persons:

Applications granted during 1967	....	....	....	....	....	2
Registered at 31st December, 1967	....	....	....	....	....	2
Number of places approved	....	....	....	....	....	12

### Mother and Baby Homes

#### (a) Maintained by Voluntary Bodies—

Tired Mothers' Holiday Home, Glencorse House, Peebles.

This house is carried on in conjunction with the Edinburgh Children's Holiday fund. There is accommodation for 10 mothers and a restricted number of children under 5 years of age, for periods of 10 days each. Vacancies may also be filled on occasion by old age pensioners.

#### (b) Provided by the Midlothian, East Lothian and Peebles Children's Committee—

Midfield House and Tenterfield House.

#### Midfield House and Tenterfield House

Children in Homes at 30th November, 1966	....	....	....	....	....	3
Admitted during 1967	....	....	....	....	....	3
Died during 1967	....	....	....	....	....	—
Discharged during 1967	....	....	....	....	....	4
Remaining in Homes at 30th November, 1967	....	....	....	....	....	2

### Children Act, 1948

Children on Child Life Protection Register at 30th Nov., 1967	1
Children from Peeblesshire boarded-out in Peeblesshire	3
“ “ “ boarded-out in other areas	3
“ “ “ in Joint Children's Committee Homes	2
“ “ “ in Registered Voluntary Homes...	1
Children from other areas boarded-out in Peeblesshire	8

## Adoption Act, 1958

Number of adoptions arranged by Local Authority ....	....	—
Number of children supervised under Part IV following notices—		
under (a) Secs. 37(1) (a) and 38 ....	....	1
(b) Secs. 37(1) (b) and 38 ....	....	1

## Children coming into care 1st December, 1966—30th November, 1967

Under 2 years	2—4 years	5—15 years	Over 15 years	Total
3	3	8	—	14

## NURSING SERVICES

Miss Tinch reports as follows: While there is no significant change in the pattern of work in the Western area of the County there is a reduction in the number of cases and visits in the Eastern area. This in no way reflects on the nursing staff who have worked long hours in an endeavour to meet the needs of patients. There has been a shortage throughout the year due to illness and a resignation earlier than anticipated with the result that most of the year this area has been a nurse short. The chief difficulty is that with a small staff which does not make allowance for additional relief if required the only possibility in times of shortage is to cut the work that can be done. Nurses find this unsatisfactory as the patients get less than what is considered optimum attention. It is notable that the reduction in both cases and visits is in the older age group. It is unlikely that the reduction reflects better health or fewer elderly persons. In the under 65 year old groups there is an increase of referrals. These are most often the acute episodes of illness.

Health visiting work has also had to be reduced to minimal services in the part of the East area covered by a health visitor also undertaking nursing work. Care of the sick assumes an urgency over visitation for purposes of promotion of health.

The County is taking advantage of health visitor training facilities to meet staff requirements on a long term basis. Attempts to recruit staff for more immediate needs have not been successful.

To the disappointment of midwives on the staff there have been no home confinements during the year. In theory this may look as if no midwives are required yet they all are involved in ante and post natal care. In cases of emergency midwives have been required to escort a mother with serious complications of pregnancy or labour to hospital. Less rigid divisions between midwives on the staff of hospital and Local Authority maternity services could be a happy solution to the midwife's dilemma of being required for emergency yet not having opportunity to practice normal midwifery.

Miss Ross continues her work as a field work instructor of health visitor students. In addition, 2 nursing students have spent time in the County as part of their basic training. The County can provide good experience for students provided staff have time for teaching



activities. There are of course problems relative to travel or accommodation but these can be overcome.

Regular meetings of staff continue to give opportunity for discussion of services which is but right if progress is to be made. They also serve to give a feeling of unity among the staff and a chance to discuss new ideas and developments.

The nursing staff continue to participate in the organisation and supervision of the home help service.

We appreciate the value of continuing services given by members of voluntary bodies without whose help certain services would be poorer or almost impossible. Trained members of Red Cross Detachments have assisted in times of shortage thus as far as is known, no person in need of help has suffered because a nurse was not able to visit on a specific day. School children have also made considerable effort in certain activities.

The spirit of voluntary service thrives in Peeblesshire. The fact that the rising generation is being encouraged and indeed enjoys helping those less fortunate than themselves augurs well for the future. Nursing staff have continued to give what help they can in fostering this spirit of service as well as participating in training activities, e.g., Duke of Edinburgh Award Scheme, Red Cross Training.

Our visitors to the undernoted during the year were as follows:

	C.N.S.	H.V.	T.D.	F.W.I.
University ....	2	1	1	—
Royal College of Nursing ....	2	—	2	—
Nursing Students ....	—	—	2	—
Student H.V.'s. ....	—	—	—	2
Scottish Home and Health Department	4	—	—	—
Others ....	—	—	2	—

## HEALTH VISITING

### Domiciliary Visitation

	Cases	Visits
Expectant Mothers ....	—	—
Children born in 1967 ....	224	997
Children born in 1966 ....	191	757
Children born in 1962-65 ....	549	1298
School Children ....	42	71
Persons aged 65 years and over ....	90	369
Mental Health—care and after care ....	—	—
Other hospitals after care ....	—	—
Tuberculosis households ....	41	83
Other infectious diseases ....	8	8
Problem families ....	2	9
Other ....	135	974
Persons visited above at request of G.P. or hospital ....	—	—

## Attendances at Clinics, etc.

Local Health Authority Clinics									Sessions
Ante-natal	....	....	....	..	..	....	....	..	—
Post-natal	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	—
Ante and Post-natal combined	....	....	....	..	..	..	..	....	—
Child Welfare	....	....	....	..	....	....	....	..	113
Immunisation	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	1
Mothercraft	....	....	....	....	..	..	..	....	19
Relaxation	....	....	....	....	....	..	....	....	4
Mothercraft and relaxation combined	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	2
Health Education	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	..	—
Deafness in young children etc.	....	....	....	....	..	....	..	..	20
									159

## Hospital Units

Maternity	....	....	....	..	..	....	..	....	—
Paediatric	..	....	..	..	..	....	....	..	—
Geriatric	..	....	....	....	..	....	....	..	—
Mental Health	....	....	....	....	..	....	....	..	—

## School Health

Minor Ailment	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	38
Cleanliness	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	19
Minor Ailment/Cleanliness	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	76
Eye	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	8
Medical Inspections	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	51
Health Education	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	10
Vision Testing	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	..	9
Tuberculosis—Skin Tests and B.C.G. Vaccination	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	9
Other	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	1
									221

## Other Services

Staff Meetings	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	21
Visitors	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	17
Clerical	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	44
Refresher Causes	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	29
Other	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	26
									137

## HOME NURSING

							Number of	
							Cases	Visits
All Cases	..	....	....	....	....	....	398	9,424
Under 5 years of age	....	....	....	....	....	....	16	91
65 years and over	....	....	....	....	....	....	263	7,836

While there is an apparent reduction in the number of cases attended, this is, at least in part due to a change in recording whereby elderly persons requiring supervisory nursing care only, are not recorded as home nursing visits but under a special heading. 104 such persons had 369 visits.

A service whereby nursing assistance can be made available to patients with cancer being nursed in their own homes, is available, the County Council acting on behalf of the Marie Curie Memorial Foundation.

“A” Registered Nurses      “C” Persons with Home Nursing experience  
“B” Enrolled Nurses      “D” Nursing assistants with no training

## DOMESTIC HELP

All Domestic Helps are X-rayed before first appointment.

## Smallpox Vaccination

Percentage Vaccinated of those resident in	1-4 years	5-15 years
County at end of 1967	78	88

210 Records (158 primary and 72 re-vaccinations) were returned by General Practitioners.



## Diphtheria, Whooping Cough and Tetanus Immunisation

	Under 5 years	5-15 years	Over 15 years
Number immunised during 1967 ....	188	9	—
Number given maintenance injection during 1967....	144	117	—
Number of confirmed cases of diphtheria in 1967 ....	—	—	—
Number of deaths from diphtheria in 1967 ....	—	—	—
Percentage immunised against Diphtheria of those resident in County at end of 1967 ....	6 mths. to 4 years 88	5-15 years 93	

Records for 385 children were returned by General Practitioners  
(175 primary and 210 "booster" injections)

## Poliomyelitis Vaccination

The number of persons vaccinated during 1967 was as follows:

	Primary Vaccinations	4th Maintenance Doses
Born in years 1943 to 1967 ....	203	101
Born in the years 1933 to 1942 ....	3	—
Others ....	—	—
Total vaccinated in 1967 ....	206	101
Total vaccinated from 1956 to 1966 ....	6339	5309
Total vaccinated to date ....	6545	5410

	1-4 years	5-15 years
Percentage vaccinated against Poliomyelitis of those resident in County at end of 1967 ....	83	91

Records for 272 children were returned by General Practitioners (185 primary and 87 maintenance doses).

## Tuberculin Testing and B.C.G. Vaccination—

### Contacts

During 1967 this service was continued for all pre-school and school children who were contacts of known cases of tuberculosis.

The following table sets out these skin tests, B.C.G. vaccinations and X-ray results by age and sex.

Age Group (years)	Under 1		1 and under 5		5 and under 10		10 and under 15		15 and under 20		Totals by sex		Total
Sex	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	
Positive Skin Test ....	—	—	2	—	—	2	—	—	—	—	2	2	4
Negative Skin Test ....	—	1	1	4	2	2	1	1	—	—	4	8	12
Negative Reactors— Given B.C.G. ...	—	1	1	4	2	2	1	1	—	—	4	8	12
Positive Reactors— X-Rayed ....	—	—	2	—	—	2	—	—	—	—	2	2	4*

\*3 cases were confirmed and placed on register.

## School Leavers

The parents of all children born in 1953 were asked to give their consent to skin test, with B.C.G. vaccination of negative reactors and X-ray of positive reactors. In 97.9 per cent. of cases the parents gave complete consent.

The positive reactors were X-rayed at special sessions at the schools by means of large films. No cases of tuberculosis were discovered.

No. Skin Tested			Refusals			Positive Reactors			X-rayed		
M.	F.	Total	M.	F.	Total	M.	F.	Total	M.	F.	Total
95	85	180	4	—	4	17	15	32	17	16	33

148 pupils were given B.C.G. vaccination.

Eleven positive reactors had previously had B.C.G. vaccination.

## INFECTIOUS DISEASE

### Tuberculosis

The trend of notifications since 1935 is shown in the following table:

	1935-1939		1940-1944		1945-1949		1950-1954		1955-1959		1960-1964		1965	1966	1967
	Av.	Av.	Av.	Av.	Av.	Av.	Av.	Av.	Av.	Av.	Av.	Av.			
Respiratory	6	11	17	11(2)	6(5)	3(2)	2(1)	9(4)	10(1)						
Non-Respiratory	5	6	7	2(1)	1(—)	1(—)	—(—)	2(—)	—(—)						
Total	11	17	24	13(3)	7(5)	4(2)	2(1)	11(4)	10(1)						

Ten notifications were confirmed. The figure in brackets is additional cases transferred in. These are included in previous averages.

### Types of New Respiratory Cases Found

	Total Cases	Sputum + ve	Early acute	Chronic	Contact of known case
Male	4	2	2	2	1
Female	6	2	4	2	3

### Mass Miniature Radiography

Thirteen domestic helps were X-rayed at fixed Units in Peebles or Edinburgh. No cases were found.

Arrangements were made for X-ray of teaching staff and schools ancillary staff. 81 teachers and 63 ancillary staff were X-rayed.

### Number of Persons Resident in the County at 31st December, 1967, who were known to be suffering from Tuberculosis

By Area		Confirmed in 1967.		Total known Cases in Area.	
Area.		Respiratory.	Non-Respiratory.	Respiratory.	Non-Respiratory
Landward	....	1	—	9	2
Peebles	....	7	—	24	3
Innerleithen	....	2	—	10	2
Total	....	10	—	43	7

By Age Groups		5		15	25	35	45	55	65	Total
Age Group	Under	and	under	and	and	and	and	and	and	
(in years)	5	15	25	35	45	55	65	wards		
<b>Respiratory</b>										
Confirmed 1967	M.	1	—	—	1	1	—	—	1	4
	F.	1	2	—	—	1	1	—	1	6
Total in County 31/12/67	M.	2	4	2	1	5	2	2	1	19
	F.	1	2	—	5	8	2	3	3	24

### Non-Respiratory

Confirmed 1967	M.	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
	F.	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Total in County 31/12/67	M.	—	—	1	—	1	2	—	—	4
	F.	—	—	—	—	—	2	—	1	3

## Particulars of persons who died from Tuberculosis in the County during the Year

					Respiratory.		Non-Respiratory.	
					Males.	Females.	Males.	Females.
Number of persons who died from tuberculosis					1	—	—	—
Of whom—								
Not notified or notified only at or after death					—	—	—	—
Notified less than one month before death					—	—	—	—
Notified from 1 to 3 months before death					—	—	—	—
Notified from 3 to 6 months before death					—	—	—	—
Notified from 6 to 12 months before death					1	—	—	—
Notified from 1 to 2 years before death					—	—	—	—
Notified over 2 years before death					—	—	—	—

## Sanatoria

			In Sanatoria on 1st Jan. 1967	Admitted during 1967	Discharged or died during 1967	In Sanatoria on 31st Dec. 1967
Males	....	....	1	2	2	1
Females	....	....	—	3	1	2
Children	....	....	—	2	2	—
Total	....	....	1	7	5	3

There were no cases on the Waiting List at the end of year.

## Housing of Tuberculosis Cases

		Overcrowded tuberculosis families				
		At December 1966		Rehoused during	At December 1967	
		Resp.	Non-Resp.	1967	Resp.	Non-Resp.
Peebles Landward	....	—	—	—	—	—
Peebles Burgh	....	1	—	1	—	—
Innerleithen Burgh	....	—	—	—	—	—
Total	....	1	—	1	—	—

## Other Infectious Diseases

The further following confirmed cases of other infectious disease occurred during the year:

	Land-ward Area	Peebles Burgh	Inner-leithen Burgh	Total 1967	Cases not admitted to Hospital	Total 1966
Dysentery ....	11	3	4	18	17	88
Scarlet Fever ....	—	—	—	—	—	4
Food Poisoning ....	—	—	—	—	—	1
Whooping Cough ....	4	—	—	4	4	—
Total ....	15	3	4	22	21	93

## Venereal Diseases

Patients attend for consultation and treatment at the Royal Infirmary, Edinburgh, where they may be admitted to special wards for in-treatment if necessary.

Examination of specimens is carried out at the Infirmary Laboratory.

Medical practitioners in the County are supplied with the necessary outfits for taking specimens, which are sent to the Clinical Pathologist, Pathological Laboratory, Royal Infirmary, Edinburgh.

Syphilis—Acquired ....	—	Non-gonococcal Urethritis ....	3
Congenital ....	—	Other Venereal Infections ....	15
Gonorrhoea ...	1	Non-Venereal Disease ....	3

## Bacteriological Services

The number of examinations carried out in 1967 (505) is smaller than that for 1966 (1,219) when there was an epidemic of Sonne dysentery in Innerleithen but it is similar to the figures for earlier years.

There was no evidence from the specimens submitted of any outbreak of bacterial disease during the year and no isolations of any *Salmonella*, *Myco. tuberculosis* or *C. diphtheriae* were made.

	Positive	Total
Swabs from ear, nose and throat examined for <i>C. diphtheriae</i> ....	—	12
Swabs from nose and throat examined for haemolytic streptococci, etc. ....	7	17
Specimens examined for <i>Myco. tuberculosis</i> :		
By microscopical examination of the concentrated specimen:		
Sputum....	—	1
By cultivation (sputum and other specimens) ....	—	1
Specimens for general bacteriological examination:		
Urine ....	—	25
Sputum....	—	1
Pus ....	—	3
Urethral and Vaginal Swabs....	—	3

	Positive	Total
Staphylococcal coagulase tests	1	2
Sensitivity Tests	—	265
Faeces examined for organisms of the salmonella and dysentery groups and other bowel pathogens	21	130
Moore's swabs for bacterial pathogens	—	6
Paul Bunnell tests for glandular fever	1	2
Faeces for helminths and protozoa	—	1
Specimen for pathogenic fungi	—	2
Serological tests for syphilis—Flocculation	—	1
Complement Fixation Test for Gonococcal Infection	—	1
Widal	—	2
Sera for antibodies	—	2
Specimen for virus isolation	—	27
Milk examined for pathogens	—	1

## HEALTH EDUCATION

In accordance with our general principle, chief reliance was placed on individual talks to parents and children at school medical and dental inspections and maternity and child welfare clinics, and during home visitation.

Persuasion of the individual, by health education, is something of which it is very difficult to assess a result—consequently at times health education can be disheartening. However, the staff of the Health and Welfare Department have continued to give talks on a wide variety of subjects as shown in the table.

Subject	School Children		Preformed Groups		Totals
	Primary Talks	Secondary Talks	Youth Talks	Adult Talks	
Feminine Hygiene	— —	10 20	— —	— —	10 20
Health Services	— —	— —	— —	1 60	1 60
Home Nursing	— —	— —	— —	1 30	1 30
Mothercraft	— —	5 5	— —	16 21	21 26
	— —	— —	— —	— —	— —
	— —	15 25	— —	18 111	33 136

## Attendance at Courses

With the rapid advances in medicine and the continual changes in legislation with regard to Health Services and Welfare it is very difficult for members of staff to keep up to date. Regular staff meetings are held and these meetings certainly help, but, in addition, every opportunity should be taken to send members of staff on organised courses, and the undernoted table shows how many members of the staff attended such courses during the year. Courses attended:

By Medical Officer	By Dental Officer	By Nursing Staff	By Other Staff
14	4	3	6



## HANDICAPPED PERSONS

All handicapped children are given regular medical supervision under the Child Welfare and School Health services in association with the family doctors and hospital consultants. If need be the children are sent to Castlecraig Residential School, or such other temporary accommodation as may be more appropriate. When due to leave school, the Youth Employment Officer is advised of their limitations as regards employment. After school they become the responsibility of the Welfare Committee who arrange further care and supervision, either at the Senior Training Centre, or by home visitation by the Occupational Therapist.

### Physical Defects—General Classification Register

	Male	Female	Total
Congenital Malformations ....	1	3	4
Deaf and Dumb ....	1	7	8
Blind and Partially Blind ....	16	26	42
Organic Nervous Diseases ....	6	6	12
Other Nervous or Mental Disorders ....	7	13	20
Amputations ....	—	2	2
Arthritis and Rheumatism ....	2	—	2
Injuries ....	3	2	5
Totals	36	59	95

### Blind Persons

Ascertainment and supervision of blind persons is carried out by the Edinburgh and South-East Scotland Society for Teaching the Blind to Read at their Own Homes.

Age Group (years)	0-4	5-15	16-29	30-39	40-49	50-69	70+	Total
Registered in 1966								
M.	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	1
F.	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	1
Total on Register								
at 31/12/66								
M.	—	—	1	1	2	6	3	13
F.	—	—	—	1	1	8	11	21

2 boys under 16 years of age attend Castlecraig Residential School and 1 boy of 18 years attends Worcester College for the Blind.

#### Adult Blind

	Employed			Unemployed	
	M.	F.		M.	F.
In workshops for blind ....	2	—	Not available for employment ....	5	21
As approved home workers ....	—	—	Not capable of work ....	1	—
Others (excl. those at school) ....	4	—			
Total ....	6	—	Total ....	6	21

In addition there were 8 partially sighted persons registered in the County.

The round of visits by the "blind" visitor brought the usual variety of items to be dealt with. Besides discussion of problems associated

with blindness, and other personal worries in which the home teacher is made a sharer, practical help was given to overcome the handicaps of blindness in the providing of apparatus designed for blind people, V.H.F. wireless sets, craft materials and Talking Book Machines.

In addition to visiting, the usual socials were held, with the kind assistance of the Rotarians for transport.

### Deaf and Dumb

Ascertainment and supervision of deaf and dumb persons is carried out by the Edinburgh Deaf and Dumb Benevolent Society.

Age Group	Position at 31/12/67																	Total
	0-4		5-15		16-29		30-39		40-49		50-69		70+					
	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F		
Employed	..	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	
Unemployed or not available for work		—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	4	—	4	

Each of these persons suffers from deafness of "severe" degree.

### Epileptics and Spastics

Reliable information in regard to the numbers of adults suffering from epilepsy is not available but 3 are known, with 2 among children and young persons up to 18 years of age. Two mild cases are in attendance at school and are able to undertake all activities under only mild sedation. The remaining case, over school age is also of only mild degree.

Should any case be brought to the notice of this Department, where education and treatment at the Colony for Epileptics, Bridge of Weir, would be considered suitable, arrangements could be made for admission.

As with epileptics, no reliable figures are available in regard to the number of adults suffering from Cerebral Palsy but three are known. There are at present 4 cases reported among children and young persons. One boy attends Castlecraig, another attends Murrayfield Day Centre, and two girls attend the ordinary school. There is also one pre-school case.

Where desirable, cases may be examined at Westerlea School for Spastics, and arrangements made for suitable cases to be admitted. In cases where the level of intelligence is such that they are not considered suitable for Westerlea, but where surgical intervention may be required, treatment is arranged at Princess Margaret Rose Hospital or Peel Hospital. Co-operation with the Welfare Services is satisfactory.

### Aids and Adaptations

No aids were issued or adaptations to property made during the year.

## Mental Defectives

Adults	Male	Female
Under official Guardianship in Peeblesshire .... (Of whom one is a Midlothian case)	1	2
Under informal supervision .... (Of whom two males and one female are on the waiting list for admission to hospital)	6	4

## Children

Aged 1-5 years	1	1
Aged 5-16 years at home—not fit for admission to special school or occupational centre	1*	—
Aged 5-16 years in attendance at Education Committee Occupational Centre/Special Class	9	6
Aged 5-16 years in attendance at residential School: Garvald House, Dolphinton	—	1
Castlecairg, Blythbridge	1	—
Aged 5-16 years at ordinary schools, I.Q. 75 or under	2	1

\* Attends Murrayfield Day Centre.

## In Hospital

	1-5		5-16		Over 16		Totals	
	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F
Gogarburn	—	—	—	1	8	—	8	1
Rosslynlee	—	—	—	—	2	—	2	—
Larbert	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	1
St Mary's (Galashiels)	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	1
Hansel Village	—	—	—	—	1	—	1	—
	—	—	—	1	11	2	11	3

## Waiting List for Admission to Hospital

Age	Male	Female
1-5 years	—	—
5-16 years	—	—
Over 16 years	2	1
	2	1

## Mentally Ill

The number of mentally ill cases treated in Hospital during the year was as follows:

	Rosslynlee		Dingleton	
	Male	Female	Male	Female
In Hospital at 31/12/66	14	14	6	14
Admitted during 1967	—	1	21	20
Discharged „ „	—	1	12	15
Died	—	—	5	3
Remaining at 31/12/67	14	14	10	16

Ten cases were given After-Care supervision by the hospitals.  
(Rosslynlee —; Dingleton 10.)



## Home Visits during 1967

Visits by

	No. of Cases	Medical Officers	Health Visitors	P.S.W.	Mental Health Officers	* Others	Voluntary Organisations
<b>Mentally Defective—</b>							
Under Guardianship	3	8	—	—	2	6	—
Under Informal Supervision	9	18	—	—	6	—	—
<b>Mentally Ill—</b>							
Under Guardianship	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Under Informal Supervision	1	—	—	—	5	—	—

\*County Welfare Officer as part-time Mental Health Officer.

## Senior Training Centre

The Centre increased in numbers to 24, though not all attend every day. Mrs Kerr, the Centre Supervisor, continued to have most valuable assistance from the voluntary workers who take it in turn to assist in the work of the Centre. Wrought iron work has been added to the other craft work already being done. A Speech Therapist visited regularly for a few months during the year. This was of great help to two brain damaged cases.

## Social Work

Miss Gilroy reports: This year has been a happy one for the Social Worker in Peeblesshire as there has been a noticeable expansion in the work. Thirty-eight cases were referred and the sources of referral were: Dingleton Hospital 21; Health Visitors 4; Family Doctors 13.

Miss Gilroy has gone to Dingleton Hospital once a month to attend their Social Worker's Meeting and the discussion in the Geriatric Ward. Quite a proportion of the cases referred were from the Ward and on one or two occasions Miss Gilroy and the Ward Sister from Dingleton met a group of the ladies in Peebles.

Dingleton Hospital also started an Out-Patient Clinic at Peebles this year which is now held once a fortnight. Miss Gilroy has seen quite a number of the patients there with the Psychiatrist where he felt her help would be appropriate.

Meetings are held with one group of Family Doctors usually once a month. This has proved exceptionally interesting and rewarding—mainly due to the great understanding the Doctors have shown, and Miss Gilroy is grateful for their time and patience. In fact, all the Doctors in Peeblesshire have been very co-operative and kind—their help in referral of appropriate cases and their support has been appreciated.

A final "thank you" must be given to the Children's Department and to Mr Arthur Muir, the Welfare Officer—as a newcomer the Social Worker found their co-operation and advice invaluable.

## OLD PEOPLE

### Meals on Wheels

To assist the policy of the Health Committee of keeping old people in their own homes as long as possible, a meals on wheels service was started through the co-operation of the W.R.V.S. in Peebles Burgh in 1963. In 1964 the service was extended to Innerleithen and West Linton, in the latter area the work being carried on under the auspices of the local British Red Cross workers using their own transport. The position at the end of 1967 was as follows:

#### Peebles—

Meals supplied three days each week—Monday, Wednesday and Friday.

No. of Meals supplied at 1/1/67—16.

No. of Meals supplied at 31/12/67—23.

Meals supplied by School Kitchen and delivered by W.R.V.S.

#### Innerleithen—

Meals supplied two days each week—Tuesday and Thursday.

No. of Meals supplied at 1/1/67—20.

No. of Meals supplied at 31/12/67—21.

Meals supplied by School Kitchen and delivered by W.R.V.S.

#### West Linton—

Meals supplied two days each week—Tuesday and Thursday.

No. of Meals supplied at 1/1/67—10.

No. of Meals supplied at 31/12/67—8.

Meals supplied by Broomlee Camp and delivered by Red Cross

In all cases the recipients of meals pay 1/8 per meal.

### Chiropody

The persons eligible for this service under the aegis of the Peeblesshire Branch of the British Red Cross Society are women over 60 years and men over 65 years, the charge made being 1/- per visit. The scheme includes a certain amount of domiciliary treatment for housebound cases, and many others are provided with special transport to bring them to the treatment centre. The number of treatments given during the year was as follows:

	Treatments	Cases
Peebles (including Dunwhinny Lodge)	469	169
Innerleithen ....	246	75
Walkerburn ....	137	39
Broughton ....	49	18
West Linton ....	106	48
Traquair ....	39	10

This is a striking example of the most valuable work which can be done by voluntary organisations. The old folk benefit to an almost unbelievable extent.

## OCCUPATIONAL THERAPY

The Occupational Therapist left early in the year and no replacement could be found up to the end of the year. This has meant that domiciliary visiting has ceased and no specialised therapy could be undertaken at the Senior Training Centre.

## PHYSIOTHERAPY

1967 saw the first full year of a physiotherapy service for all sections of the community provided by one physiotherapist, the various duties being divided equally between Local Authority and the Borders Hospital Board. Hospital adult treatments are carried out at Hay Lodge Clinic, Memorial Hospital and County Hospital.

During the year 237 patients made a total of 3088 out-patient attendances for treatment at Hay Lodge Clinic; 12 chronic sick and 6 in-patients at Peebles Memorial Hospital were also treated.

A total of 46 domiciliary visits were made to treat 6 recent stroke cases referred by general practitioners.

### Dunwhinny Lodge

Sessions continued on a weekly basis and again various conditions were treated.

		Attendances				Type of Treatment		
Male	Female	Repeat	New Cases	Repeat	New Cases	Heat	Exercises	Other
42	4	46	3			89	95	88

### Orthopaedic

Five pre-school children were seen by the Orthopaedic Consultant (2 new and 3 old cases). At the end of the year 9 pre-school children (2 new and 7 old cases) were on the orthopaedic register.

## RESIDENTIAL HOMES

Ambulant cases can be admitted to Dunwhinny Lodge, Peebles, or Eildon View Home, Galashiels. The following Table gives details of the Peeblesshire cases in residence during the year:

	Dunwhinny Lodge		Eildon View Home		Total
	Men	Women	Men	Women	
In residence at 31st December, 1966	11	21	6	5	43
Total number of admissions	4	3	1	—	8
Total number of discharges	3	—	1	1	5
Total number of deaths	3	1	—	1	5
In residence at 31st December, 1967	9	23	6	3	41

#### Number of beds occupied—

(a) Average during year...	32	10	42
(b) Highest	33	11	44
(c) Lowest	31	9	40

#### The Age Distribution of Residents as at 31/12/67 was as follows—

		Under 60 yrs.	61/65	66/70	71/75	76/80	81/85	86/90	90 +
Dunwhinny Lodge									
Male	—	—	1	—	1	2	5	—	
Female	—	1	1	3	6	5	5	2	
Eildon View									
Male	1	—	1	—	3	1	—	—	
Female	—	—	—	—	—	1	1	1	

## REGISTRATION OF NURSING HOMES

There is no Registered Nursing Home in the County.

## HOSPITALS

### 1. General

General cases are admitted to the War Memorial Hospital which has seventeen beds for this purpose.

### 2. Infectious Disease

Infectious disease cases are taken to the City Hospital, Edinburgh.

### 3. Chronic Sick

These are admitted to Kingsland Hospital, Peebles, which has twenty beds.

### 4. Sanatoria

There are no sanatoria in the County, cases of tuberculosis being admitted to East Fortune Hospital or Bangour Hospital.

### 5. Maternity

Cases are admitted principally to the War Memorial Hospital, Peebles, which has eleven maternity beds.

### 6. Children

There are no such Hospitals in the County.

### 7. Convalescent Homes

There are no such Homes in the County.

## AMBULANCE FACILITIES

There is one ambulance centre in the County at the garage of the Tweeddale Motor Company Limited, Peebles.

## SCHOOL HEALTH SERVICE

The Report on School Health Services is issued separately.

## HOUSING

The position in the County generally with regard to numbers of houses was as follows:

Area		Uninhabitable houses closed during year	Houses built and occupied during year			Conversions	
			L.A.	Private	S.S.H.A.	L.A.	Private
Landward	....	3	—	12	—	—	4
Peebles Burgh	....	5	48	6	42	—	—
Innerleithen Burgh		1	23	2	15	—	—

## Factories Act, 1961

	No. on Register	Number of		Occupiers Prosecuted
		Inspections	Written Notices	
(i) Factories in which Sections 1, 2, 3, 4 and 6 are enforced by Local Authority.				
Landward ... ..	—	—	—	—
Peebles Burgh ... ..	47	23	2	—
Innerleithen Burgh ... ..	3	7	—	—
(ii) Factories not included in (i) in which Section 7 is enforced by Local Authority.				
Landward ... ..	15	19	—	—
Peebles Burgh ... ..	34	14	—	—
Innerleithen Burgh ... ..	16	20	—	—
(iii) Other Premises in which Section 7 is enforced by Local Authority (excluding outworkers).				
Landward ... ..	5	5	—	—
Peebles Burgh ... ..	5	5	—	—
Innerleithen Burgh ... ..	—	—	—	—

# Factories Act, 1961—continued

Area	Particulars	No. of cases where defects found				Prosecutions
		Found	Remedied	To H.M. Inspector	By H.M. Inspector	
Peebles Burgh	Want of Cleanliness Sanitary Conveniences— Unsuitable or Defective	5	5	—	2	—
		5	5	—	—	—

## OUTWORK

Area	Nature of Work	Section 133			Section 134		Prosecutions
		No. of out-workers in August List required by Section 133 (1) (c)	No. of cases of default in sending lists to the Council	No. of Prosecutions for failure to supply lists	No. of instances of work in unwholesome premises	Notices served	
Landward	Textile Weaving	5	—	—	—	—	—



# ANNUAL REPORT—1967

## BY THE

### COUNTY SANITARY INSPECTOR

#### Introductory

The year under review is one of some significance in the field of public health in that it is the centennial year of what may be regarded as the establishment of the environmental health services as we know them today. It was in terms of Section 8 of the Public Health (Scotland) Act, 1867 that local authorities were for the first time authorised and in certain cases required to appoint sanitary inspectors and medical officers with specified functions and responsibilities. So far as the landward areas were concerned, these local authorities were the parochial boards until county councils were constituted some twenty-two years later under the Local Government (Scotland) Act, 1889. Finally, the permissive authority of local authorities to appoint these officers was rendered a mandatory duty by Section 15 of the Public Health (Scotland) Act, 1897.

So one hundred years have come and gone and it is a fitting time to look around and take stock. Has the public health legislation tabled in that time been successful? Have the public health authorities that it established and armed performed a worthwhile function? Have the officers appointed by these authorities achieved their target? Is the country environmentally a better place to live in? Are the lives of the people fuller, happier and healthier? Has the expenditure of public money in this sector been justifiable?

Speaking as objectively as possible, I believe on due reflection that these questions can indeed be answered affirmatively, if in some cases with qualification. Perusal of the County Public Health Report for 1893 shows the Infantile Mortality Rate per 1,000 births for that year to have been no less than 140. In 1966, it was 15; it shows the death rate from what were then referred to as the seven chief zymotic diseases, namely, smallpox, measles, scarlet fever, diphtheria, whooping-cough, fever (including typhus, typhoid and continued) and diarrhoeal diseases to have been 1·78 per 1,000, equivalent to 13 deaths in the County's population from these causes; it shows that 24 people died that year from tubercular diseases. In 1966 the equivalent rate for all these diseases was nil. In 1901, when the construction of the Talla Reservoir was under way and as many as five hundred men were employed there and on the associated aqueduct, living, some with their families, in extremely sub-standard hutments with either dry or no sanitation, a case of small-pox was diagnosed and "the navvy who contracted it . . . on the nature of the disease being discovered . . . was at once ejected and told to go elsewhere."! This was the first of many cases and a number

of deaths. 1967 saw the completion of two further reservoirs in the County, one at West Water, North Slipperfield, and one at Fruid, Tweedsmuir. In these cases the engineers and men with, in some cases, their families lived in well appointed caravans with electricity, water and drainage laid on; modern kitchens, dining halls and sanitary facilities were provided; and no case of serious infectious disease attributable to environmental conditions occurred.

One hundred years ago the houses of the working classes were ill-lit and ill-ventilated hovels, with at best stone flagged floors, walls through lack of a damp-proof course often severely affected with dampness, inadequate in size, with no proper food storage or preparation arrangements, without water, sanitation or refuse disposal facilities. Water supplies, often in the form of a communal well, were apt to be polluted, not surprising when one considers that ordure and all household waste matter were discarded and even led into the nearest stream. Tainted food was commonly sold and milk was produced, often from tuberculous animals, under the direst of conditions. Tuberculosis, typhoid, small-pox and diphtheria were rife in the land with little knowledge of how to deal with them and few, if any, isolation hospitals. If not intolerable, life for the majority of the people in these days could not have been a bed of roses!

And what of today, only five generations later? Modern homes, electrically lit and gas heated, kitchens with refrigerators, dish- and clothes-washing machines, aglitter with stainless steel and tiles, adequate food and general storage space; play areas for the children: pure water supplies; public refuse collection and disposal services: sewerage systems delivering to disposal plants designed to prevent the pollution of the streams into which discharge is made; good working conditions, be it in factory, farm, shop or office; good recreational facilities; good hospitals and clinics; safe food and drink; tuberculosis, typhoid, small-pox and diphtheria stamped out and other infectious diseases very much under control: the healthy birth and life expectancy rates raised, and old age secured and protected.

It would be misleading and immodest, of course, for the sanitarians to claim that these advances have been solely due to their works. Evolution, industry, commerce, communications, science, the growth of general knowledge and the perennial striving of mankind to better his lot, have all played their part. Suffice it for me to make the claim that the sanitarians, by the application to the problems of their specialised knowledge, skills and discipline, always willing, often enthusiastic and sometimes even dedicated, have contributed significantly to the moulding of the environment in which these desirable changes have taken place.

With this backward and reflective glance over my shoulder to the hundred years that have gone, I have pleasure now in presenting my report for the year 1967 which, I hope, will give some idea of the functioning of a present-day rural county sanitary department.



**The Milk and Dairies (Scotland) Act, 1914, the Milk (Special Designations) Act, 1949, the Milk (Special Designations) (Scotland) Order, 1965, and the Milk and Dairies (Channel Islands and South Devon) Milk (Scotland) Regulations, 1958**

**I—Milk and Dairies (Scotland) Act, 1914**

	1967	
	1st Jan.	31st Dec.
Number of Certificates of Registration in terms of Section 7	62	56
Number of Registered Producers	45	42

**II—Milk (Special Designations) (Scotland) Order, 1965**

Number and type of Licences in force at 31st December, 1967

Special Designation	Pro-ducer's	Dealer's	Dealer's Supple- mentary	Licences in 1967		
				Revoked	Suspended	Reinstated
" Premium "	6	9	2	—	—	—
" Standard "	42	21	3	—	—	—
" Pasteurised "	—	8	2	—	—	—
" Sterilised "	—	—	—	—	—	—
Total	48	38	7	—	—	—

**III—" Premium " Milk**

(1) *Producers' Licences.* The number of dairymen licensed to produce " Premium " milk was six. One wholesaled his milk as " Standard " and as samples were tested to this grade they are included in Part IV below. Two dairymen wholesaled their milk as " Premium " to Edinburgh dairies, two retailed their milk within the County and another retailed a portion of his milk and whole-saled the remainder.

(2) *Dealers' Licences.* Nine licences to sell " Premium " milk by retail from premises within the County were in force at the end of 1967.

Much of this milk is " imported " into the County and failures relating to such milk were, in all cases, taken up with the officers of the appropriate local authorities, in the majority of cases these being Midlothian County or Edinburgh City, which authorities afforded excellent co-operation.

(3) *Dealers' Supplementary Licences.* Such licences are issued to dairymen retailing milk in the district of one local authority from duly registered and licensed premises in the district of another local authority. Two such licences were in force at the end of the year.

*Sampling.* For the sampling results of this grade of milk reference should be made to the table set out in Part VIII below.

**IV—" Standard " Milk**

(1) *Producers' Licences.* At the end of 1967 the number of dairymen licensed to produce " Standard " milk was forty-two.

Set out below is a table giving distribution of bacterial counts of samples taken from producers' premises.

Samples taken having Bacterial Counts per Millilitre								
Total Samples	Under 10,000	%	10,000 to 30,000	%	30,000 to 50,000	%	Over 50,000	%
219	86	34.70	88	40.18	18	8.21	27	12.32

(2) *Dealers' Licences.* Twenty-one licences to sell "Standard" milk by retail from premises within the County were in force at the end of 1967. Of these, one related to milk sold at a Milk Bar. Nine were issued in respect of farms selling by retail a reasonable quantity of their production locally. Five licences related to premises retailing milk produced and bottled within the County. Six related to premises retailing milk produced and bottled outwith the County.

(3) *Dealers' Supplementary Licences.* Three holders of principal licences issued by Midlothian, Selkirk and Lanark County Councils held Supplementary Licences entitling them to retail "Standard" milk in Peeblesshire from premises outwith the County.

*Sampling.* For sampling results of this grade of milk reference should be made to the table set out in Part VIII on next page.

## V—"Pasteurised" Milk

(1) *Pasteurisers' Licences.* There are no pasteurisation plants in the County.

(2) *Dealers' Licences.* Eight premises were licensed at the end of 1967 to sell by retail "Pasteurised" milk.

(3) *Dealers' Supplementary Licences.* Two firms of dairymen, one in Midlothian and the other in Selkirkshire, hold licences to retail this grade of milk within the County from premises outside it. These licences were issued to authorise the sale of "Pasteurised" milk to Peeblesshire Education Authority.

*Sampling.* For the sampling results of this grade of milk reference should be made to the table set out in Part VIII on next page.

## VI—Schools' Milk

All public schools within the County received a daily supply of "Pasteurised" milk in  $\frac{1}{2}$  pint bottles with the exception of one which, due to its isolated position, was provided with "Premium" milk in bulk.

*Sampling.* The sampling results are as noted in Part VIII on next page.

## VII—Milk Bars

Two milk bars in the landward area of the County were licensed to operate during 1967.

*Sampling.* The sampling results from these premises are as noted in Part VIII below.

## VIII—Synopsis of Samples

The overall picture of milk sampling in the County, irrespective of the source, is presented in tabular form below.

Samples from	Samples taken			Samples satisfactory		
	'Prem.'	'Stan.'	'Past.'	'Prem.'	'Stan.'	'Past.'
Producers	59	219	—	34	186	—
Dealers	18	30	35	11	22	32
Schools	1	—	62	—	—	51
Milk Bars	—	4	2	—	2	1
Total	78	253	99	45	210	84

The distribution of routine sample failures is shown in the next table.

Total No. of Farms	Number of Farms having				
	No. Failures	One Failure	Two Failures	Three Failures	Four or more Failures
42	17	10	11	—	4

## IX—Milk and Dairies (Channel Islands and South Devon) Milk (Scotland) Regulations, 1958

The effect of this legislation is to require that any milk sold under a label claiming that it is produced by cows of the breeds specified in the Regulations must (a) comply with the requirements of the Milk (Special Designations) (Scotland) Order, 1965, and (b) contain a minimum of 4% by weight of milk fat.

Only one producer in the County operates under these Regulations, selling bottled "Premium (Jersey) Milk" by wholesale to an Edinburgh firm of dairymen.

Six samples of his milk were taken during the year, all of which complied with the Regulations. The average milk fat percentage of this milk was 4.94%.

## X—Refrigerated Cooling and Storage of Milk

(1) *Bulk Milk Tanks.* Twenty-nine producers have now installed bulk tanks and a further three have indicated their intention to do so.

(2) *Refrigerated Cooling.* Six producers utilise refrigerated cooling equipment other than bulk milk tanks to cool their milk after production. Of the remaining four producers who have not provided any mechanical means of cooling their milk consistently to 50°F. as required in terms of the Order, one has undertaken to install a chilled water recirculatory cooler early in 1968, two are expected to cease commercial dairying and one has given no indication of his intentions.

## XI—Brucellosis

In accordance with the arrangements outlined in my last years Report, forty-two samples were obtained from dairies supplying raw milk, (i.e. unpasteurised milk) for retail to the public. Of these, forty-one were satisfactory, the single failure being eventually attributed to a vaccine reaction.

In 1968, I hope to extend this check to all dairy farms in the County irrespective of whether the milk is wholesaled or retailed with or without pasteurisation for, even if the bulk is wholesaled to a pasteurisation plant, some quantity is inevitably consumed in its raw state by the families of the dairymen and his employees and they are therefore at risk.

## XII—Investigational Samples

In addition to the routine sampling recorded elsewhere in this Report investigational samples were taken as follows:

Premium	Standard	Total
48	7	55

These were taken at producers' premises in efforts to trace and locate the source of contamination of milk.

## XIII—Dairy Improvements and Innovations

(1) During the year discussions were held with two farmers who intend to start commercial dairying, with a view to alterations of their premises to comply with the Milk and Dairies Acts and Orders to provide at one farm (a) milking byre, (b) bulk tank room, (c) dairy scullery and (d) bottling premises and, at the second, (a) a milking parlour, and (b) bulk tank room. It is hoped that both these units will be in operation early in 1968.

(2) Another registered dairy farmer acquired a second farm and is carrying out alterations there to enable him to commence commercial dairying some time in 1968.

(3) A new bottling room, milk store and bottle washing premises have been provided by another dairyman to enable him to operate a retail business.

(4) The most significant innovation during the year related to a new method of cow-housing—the cow kennel or “moo-tel” system. In these days when farm economics and animal husbandry developments have brought about the possibility of cow grazing ratios in the region of 1 cow/1 acre in place of previously acceptable ratios of 1 cow/3 or 4 acres, the size of dairy herds is expanding with attendant housing problems. Traditional dairy cow housing costs at £80-£100 per cow are very expensive and the search is understandably on for alternative forms of low-cost housing. This has led, almost inevitably, to the development of the cow kennel at somewhere between £20 and £35 per head.



This system usually consists of a twin range of low buildings of some light-weight construction (e.g. timber or tubular metal framing clad in corrugated metal, asbestos, or out-door quality plywood) each of lean-to formation set against each other with an 8 ft. concrete passageway and a 15 in. open ridge separating them. Each range is sub-divided into individual cow kennels or cubicles approximately 6 ft. 6 ins. by 3 ft. 6 ins. in which the animals rest at will between feeding at the self-feed silage face and being milked in a milking parlour. The kennels are so designed as to ensure that all dung is deposited in the passageway which may be slatted over a slurry tank or solid when daily mechanised cleaning and removal of the dung to a slurry tank or stead is necessary. The advantages claimed for this system are (1) it is cheap and factory prefabricated package-deal outfits can be erected by farm labour and added to if the opportunity or need arises, (2) having a 10 or 15 year write-off life it can be easily replaced when a new and better system of cow keeping comes into vogue, and (3) the cows are cleaner, healthier and happier and consequently the milk yield is increased.

In 1967 one firm of dairymen in the County applied for permission to erect such housing for 30 cows and this was granted at official level on an experimental basis. It has operated very satisfactorily since its inception, has increased the cows' milk yield and certainly so far has not affected adversely the quality of the milk produced.

The system, however, is still very much an experimental one and a close watch will have to be kept to ensure that, in other than careful and expert hands, it does not deteriorate into unkempt and ill-kept shacks contrary to all the accepted standards of dairy herd management. The position is further complicated by the dubiety as to whether this system of housing can be regulated by dairy byelaws which, at least in this County, are forty years old. It is now a goodly number of years since the revision of the milk and dairies legislation in Scotland came under consideration and it would be of great assistance to the local authorities involved in dealing with problems such as is outlined above if the Scottish Home and Health Department could expedite the publication of up-to-date Model Dairy Byelaws covering all fields of modern dairy practice.

(5) All other dairy improvements and alterations have been associated with the installation of bulk milk tanks and/or byre pipelines.

#### XIV—General

As in November the whole of Scotland was designated a "Controlled Area" in terms of the Foot and Mouth Disease Orders in an effort to prevent the spread of this disease from the current outbreak in England, it was decided in these circumstances that in general it would be inadvisable for the Milk Officer to visit farms until the restrictions were lifted and so such visits were made only on the express invitation of the dairyman involved. This state of affairs lasted till and after the end of the year under review.

During the year the Milk and Dairies Sub-Committee of the Health Committee of the County Council visited four farms in the County, chosen to present a cross-section of the types of dairying in operation.

The most disappointing but not the most unexpected feature of the year has been the poor record of "Premium" milk producers, but I think it is fair to say that this reflects as much the very high standards demanded of this grade of milk as it does the conditions under which it was produced. The farms involved are not of a poor standard structurally or in their equipment or operation.

Finally, the Scottish Milk Marketing Board have advised me that during the year under review the following quantities of milk produced in this County were sold through the Board's agency.

Bulk Tank Milk	889,432 gallons
Milk in Cans	159,757 gallons
	<hr/>
	1,049,189 gallons
	<hr/>

#### Ice Cream (Scotland) Regulations, 1948, Ice Cream (Scotland) Amendment Regulations, 1960, Food Standards (Ice Cream) (Scotland) Regulations, 1959, and Labelling of Food (Amendment) (Scotland) Regulations, 1959

Inspections of registered premises were made throughout the selling season and the following samples were taken:

(a) *Bacteriological*. Twenty-three samples were procured for bacteriological examination, twenty-two being primary and one follow-up on an unsatisfactory sample which was due to the presence of B.Coli. The repeat sample was satisfactory.

(b) *Chemical*. Twenty-two samples were submitted to the public analyst for chemical analysis, all of which complied with the requirements of the Food Standards (Ice Cream) (Scotland) Regulations, 1959. The analyst's reports demonstrated the variation in the fat and milk solids-not-fat content which exists between samples of the same grade of ice cream, these ranging in the case of fat from 5.2% to 9.4% and in the case of solids from 7.4% to 12.7%.

Registrations	Premises	Vehicles, Storage and Sale
Number of Certificates of Registration in force at 31st December, 1966	10	—
Number of Certificates of Registration granted during the year	—	—
Number of Certificates of Registration cancelled during the year	—	—
Number of Certificates of Registration discontinued during the year for other reasons	—	—
Total number of Certificates of Registration in force at 31st December, 1967	10	—



## FOOD AND DRUGS (SCOTLAND) ACT, 1956

Sampling of food and drugs was carried out throughout the year in accordance with the Act and 65 test and 30 formal samples of the undernoted commodities were obtained. All were found to comply with the requirements of the Act.

Baking Powder	Haggis	Rum
Black Pudding	Herb.	Salad Cream
Butter	Ice Cream	Sauce
Cheese	Jam	Sausages
Cocoa	Margarine	Soup
Coffee	Meat	Suet
Cornflour	Milk	Sugar
Cream	Milk (Evaporated)	Table Jelly
Fish (Tinned)	Milk (Condensed)	Tea
Flour	Mince	Tomato Ketchup
Fruit	Mustard	Whisky
Gin	Porage Oats	

The undernoted foodstuffs were seized as unfit for human consumption and destroyed.

36 lbs. Chopped Pineapple  
72 „ Tinned Meat  
7 „ Silverside of Beef  
140 „ Butcher Meat

## NEW FOOD AND DRUGS LEGISLATION

### Cheese (Scotland) (Amendment) Regulations, 1967

These came into operation on 1st February, 1967, and amend the 1966 Regulations, redefining certain terms, setting compositional standards for certain varieties of processed cheese, adding to the varieties of cheese which are subject to the requirements of the principal regulations and postponing until 1st February, 1970, certain lettering and labelling requirements.

### Antioxidant in Food (Scotland) Regulations, 1967

These came into operation on 11th February, 1967, and re-enact with amendments the Antioxidant in Food (Scotland) Regulations, 1958, although these continued in force for a transitional period until 10th November, 1967.

The principal changes wrought by the new Regulations are:

- (1) Antioxidants are prohibited in food for babies and young children.
- (2) Ethoxyquin is permitted on apples and pears up to 3 parts per million.
- (3) Certain specified antioxidants in specified amounts are permitted in preparations containing more than 100,000 I.U.'s of Vitamin A, and
- (4) Specifications have been laid down for permitted antioxidants.

### **Food (Control of Irradiation) (Scotland) Regulations, 1967**

These came into operation on 1st June, 1967, and prohibit with certain exceptions the application of ionising radiation to food intended for sale for human consumption.

### **Meat Pie and Sausage Roll (Scotland) Regulations, 1967**

These are due to come into operation on 31st May, 1968, and specify (1) compositional standards for meat pies and sausage rolls and (2) requirements for labelling, description and advertising of such products.

### **Sausage and Other Meat Product (Scotland) Regulations, 1967**

These are due to come into operation on 31st May, 1969, and will regulate the composition, labelling, description and advertising of those foodstuffs in line with the Meat Pie and Sausage Roll Regulations.

## **FOOD HYGIENE (SCOTLAND) REGULATIONS, 1959 TO 1966**

During the year film-illustrated talks were given to three women's organisations in the County and it was gratifying to learn how interested, involved and, in some cases, how knowledgeable housewives are in this subject. The spreading of this sense of involvement is a prime factor in the improvement of the nation's food hygiene standards and serves notice on those sectors of the food and catering industries disinterested in or careless of this aspect of their business that these attitudes will in future be increasingly reflected in their profits—or losses.

It is perhaps fitting here to say by way of advertisement that this Department is ready and willing to give talks, arrange film shows or exhibitions on this subject for members of the "trade" or the public. The more that food hygiene gets discussed, the quicker and higher will the standards rise.

One more bakehouse closed its doors in 1967, making a total of five in the last three years. This leaves only five such premises functioning in the County and these are almost exclusively given over to the baking of "smalls" i.e. rolls, scones and tea cakes.

A new butcher's business was established in Peebles in disused premises which, although awkward in their layout, were fully modernised and equipped to enable them and the operator to comply with the Regulations.

Similarly, premises in Peebles previously occupied by a jeweller were converted to form a small fudge and toffee making concern selling to the public over the counter in the front shop.

One new restaurant/cocktail bar with kitchen premises designed and fitted to my satisfaction was erected and went into operation in the landward area of the County and plans for the conversion of a tearoom into similar premises were under discussion with the owners at the end of the year.

Inspections of vehicles used for the retail sale of food to the public were commenced in the latter part of the year, my endeavour being to ensure that where reasonably and practicably possible, such vehicles should either meet the Regulations fully, or, on replacement, the owner should be aware of the requirements which will be applied to his new vehicle.

## SLAUGHTERHOUSES

### (1) Peebles Slaughterhouse

This is owned by Peebles Town Council but has been disused since 1965 although the possibility of its modernisation and re-use lingered on until the present year. The Town Council are now agreed, however, that such a course could not be justified economically and that in any case adequate alternative abattoir facilities are available in Edinburgh and elsewhere in the Borders. Accordingly they have decided to convert the premises into a depot and yard for the Burgh Surveyor's Department.

### (2) Broughton Slaughterhouse

This private slaughterhouse deals solely with sheep destined for the London market, the daily throughput during the 1967 slaughter season—January/March and August/December—averaging 550 sheep, an increase of 90 sheep per day over last year's figures.

The slaughterhouse drainage effluent, including the considerable blood content well diluted with added water, continued as in previous years to be discharged by spray irrigation over some 20 acres of permanent pasturage adjoining the premises without causing a public health nuisance.

The rail link serving the slaughterhouse was withdrawn in 1966 and all carcasses and offal are now dispatched via road on suitably constructed vehicles specially equipped for the purpose.

No complaints concerning these premises or their product were received.

Food Circular No. 2/1967, issued by the Scottish Home and Health Department, brought to the notice of local authorities that the stamping of meat inspected in England and Wales is now obligatory. In these circumstances, therefore, the Department requested that meat inspectors in Scotland should ensure that meat "exported" to these countries is marked, as otherwise it may be rejected by the receiving authority. The mark consists of a stamp identifying the inspector by whom the inspection was carried out and should be impressed (a) on each quarter of the carcass of the horse or bovine animal other than a calf, and (b) on each side of the carcass of any other animal, including sheep. Mr John Foster who by sanction of the Secretary of State in terms of Regulation 18 of the Food (Meat Inspection) (Scotland) Regulations, 1961, acts as meat inspector for the County Council at Broughton Slaughterhouse has been equipped with the necessary marking equipment to enable this recommendation to be applied.

## Food (Meat Inspection) (Scotland) Amendment Regulations, 1963

The undernoted charges for the inspection of meat fixed by the County Council in 1963 continued without revision in 1967, viz:

Cattle	....	....	....	2/6 per animal inspected.
Calves and Pigs	....	....	....	9d per animal inspected.
Sheep	....	....	....	4d per animal inspected.

The income from this source in the year amounted to £1,091 3/- attributable to the inspection of 65,469 sheep at Broughton Slaughterhouse.

## Slaughterhouses Act, 1954

No new Certificates of Registration in terms of the above Act were issued during the year.

## Slaughter of Animals (Prevention of Cruelty) (Scotland) Regulations, 1955

Broughton Slaughterhouse was inspected from time to time during the slaughter season to ensure that these Regulations, designed to secure humane conditions and practices in connection with the slaughter of animals at slaughterhouses were being complied with. No breach of the Regulations was observed on these occasions.

## Slaughter of Animals (Scotland) Acts, 1928-54

Eight slaughtermen were granted licences in terms of the above Acts. All licences were limited to sheep slaughter utilising electrical stunning equipment. One licence application was refused as the applicant was under 18 years of age.

## Slaughtering and Meat Inspection Statistics

The following table gives the number and species of animals slaughtered at Broughton Slaughterhouse together with condemnations and the disease conditions necessitating condemnations:

### Broughton Slaughterhouse

Condemnations				Sheep and Lambs
1. Septicaemia (Fevered Carcasses)				
Whole carcasses condemned	....	....	....	5
2. Bruising and Injury				
(a) Whole carcasses unfit	....	....	....	—
(b) Carcasses of which some part was unfit	....			17
3. All other Diseases				
(a) Whole carcasses condemned	....	....	....	21
(b) Carcasses of which some part was condemned				170
(c) Organs only unfit	....	....	....	4908
Total of diseased animals slaughtered as shown at 1 to 3 above	....	....	....	5121
Total number of animals slaughtered	....	....	....	65469



## FERTILISERS AND FEEDING STUFFS ACT, 1926

My services as "Official Sampler" for the County were not requested during the year.

Six test samples of feeding stuffs were procured in my capacity as inspector under the above Act. These are listed below and proved in all cases on analysis to be genuine, complying with their respective warranties.

Baby Chick Crumbs	Layers Mash (2)
Battery Pellets	Layers Pellets
Growers Mash	

## INFECTIOUS DISEASE

It may be recalled that in 1966 the Department was considerably extended by a widespread outbreak of dysentery (Sonne) in the eastern end of the County during the autumn of that year. 1967, however, afforded a welcome respite in that only eleven cases of this illness fell to be dealt with. The only other infectious disease which necessitated visitations by this Department was whooping cough, four cases receiving attention during the year.

Two of the dysentery cases, unfortunately, involved contacts employed in retail food businesses which necessitated their being excluded from work with corresponding financial loss. In an effort to retain the very necessary co-operation of food handlers in such a situation, and in the absence of legislation specifically authorising compensatory reimbursement, the County Council agreed to make ex gratia payments in both cases. Draft legislation covering this and other public health matters has subsequently been placed before Parliament.

## DISEASES OF ANIMALS ACTS

### Anthrax

Notices in terms of the Anthrax Order, 1938, were issued in respect of 82 animals which died in suspicious circumstances during the year. In no case, however, was this disease eventually confirmed.

### Foot and Mouth Disease

No case of this disease was reported during the year, but as a result of the widespread infection in the English Midlands the whole of Scotland was declared a Controlled Area in respect of this disease with effect from 24th November, 1967. This Order was still in effect at the end of the year.

### Diseases of Animals (Waste Food) Order, 1957

When this Order was introduced in 1957 as a measure to prevent, in particular, the spread of foot and mouth disease by requiring the boiling of waste foods intended for feeding to certain animals and poultry and the licensing of the plant used for that purpose, two licences were issued. No revocations or additions have been made in 1967.

## **Fowl Pest**

No case of this infection was reported in the County during 1967.

## **Swine Fever**

No notices defining infected places were served during 1967.

## **PREVENTION OF DAMAGE BY PESTS ACT, 1949**

### **(1) Staff**

The day-to-day survey and destruction work continued to be carried out by the Council's Rat Catcher operating on a part-time basis (i.e. alternate weeks) and provided with a Morris Mini Minor van for transport.

### **(2) Survey**

Section 2 of the Act places a duty on the local authority to take such steps as they consider necessary "to secure as far as is practicable that their district is kept free from rats and mice." In fulfilment of this duty the rat catcher carried out 334 inspections, particularly of properties which by their nature were the more likely to be infested.

### **(3) Agreement System**

The Agreement System whereby rat destruction services are made available at reasonable cost to occupiers of land within the County continued during the year at a charge of 8d per £ of the gross valuation of the property treated, subject to a minimum payment of £5.

At the end of the year there were in force 31 agreements relating to 36 properties mostly agricultural in nature. 690 visits were made to these properties as a matter of routine and they received treatment as and when required. The income from these agreements will, it is estimated, be approximately £320 at 15th May, 1968.

### **(4) Agricultural Properties Outwith the Agreement System**

Certain occupiers of land prefer to have their properties disinfested as the need arises on an hour to hour basis rather than by contract. 64 visits to 16 properties were made in this way and accounts based on an hourly rate of 8/- will be sent at the end of the financial year.

### **(5) Properties Specially Liable to Infestation**

Included in this category are 6 refuse tips, 4 scwage disposal plants, 1 slaughterhouse and its allied trades, and 7 poultry rearing premises. 177 visits were made to these premises, including survey and treatment as and when required.

### **(6) Dwellinghouses**

These, together with non-profit-making local authority properties receive free survey and treatment on request, a practice recommended by the Department of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food. 42 such properties, both private- and local authority-owned were inspected, all receiving treatment. 111 visits were made.



### (7) Business and Industrial Premises

10 such premises were inspected and treated. These included 3 shops, 1 hotel, 3 tweed mills, 1 works canteen, 1 workers' camp and 1 gravel quarry. This necessitated a total of 52 visits.

### (8) Miscellaneous Properties

3 schools were inspected on request and minor infestations dealt with. The number of visits was 16.

### (9) Pests other than Rats and Mice

Although the Act restricts the duties of local authorities specifically to the eradication of rats and mice it has been the accepted practice here for the rat catcher to deal with infestations of wasps, rabbits, moles, etc., where they occurred, and where his assistance is requested and available. This practice was continued during 1967 and two cases of wasps, six of moles and two of rabbits were dealt with.

The technique normally adopted in eradicating wasps, if inside occupied premises, is to stun them sufficiently by means of an aerosol discharged "quick-knock-down" insecticide containing pybuthrin to enable the nest to be destroyed. In cases where a bike is buried in e.g. a grass banking, the normal approach is by the use of Cymag, an agricultural preparation of hydrocyanic acid gas.

Rabbits are dealt with by trapping or gassing with Cymag as above.

Mole killing is achieved by the use of the poison strychnine hydrochloride of which I hold a  $\frac{1}{4}$  oz. supply on licence.

### General

I am glad to say that, to date, there is no indication in this County of the Warfarin resistance in rats which has been experienced in other parts of the country. Warfarin is still efficacious here and there has been no reason to discontinue its use in favour of an alternative poison.

Heavy rat infestations, fortunately, have been few and far between. During the year the greatest difficulty was actually in respect of mice which showed considerable increase, the rat catcher having to treat 27 properties, mostly dwellinghouses, but involving also farms, offices, industrial buildings and estate lands. It has been found that, especially in houses, Warfarin has not been too successful in dealing with this type of infestation and consequently recourse has been made to another poison, "Alphakil," designed particularly to deal with mice. This is proving reasonably satisfactory.

## HOUSING

### Local Authority and S.S.H.A. Houses

(a) *General Needs.* No houses in this category were erected by the County Council during the year. Those approved for erection at West Linton, and those approved in principle for erection at Eddleston, were not commenced during the year.

(b) *Glasgow Overspill*. No further houses in this category were erected during the year by the Scottish Special Housing Association.

### Private Enterprise Houses

The following were erected during or were under construction at the end of the year:

	Apartments per house	Housing Assocs. other than S.S.H.A.	For sale	For letting	Total
Completed during 1967	2 or less	—	—	—	—
	3	—	5	—	5
	4	—	1	2	3
	5 or more	—	4	—	4
	Total	—	10	2	12
Under Construction at end of 1967	2 or less	—	—	—	—
	3	—	—	1	1
	4	—	3	2	5
	5 or more	—	2	—	2
	Total	—	5	3	8

### Housing (Scotland) Act, 1950—Part VII (as Amended)—Improvement Grants

Four applications for this form of grant were received and approved by the County Council during the year. These related in all cases to the modernisation of sub-standard properties. The total approved expenditure amounted to £8,385 and the grant element to £2,000.

Since the inception of the Improvement Grant Scheme in 1949, one hundred and fifty applications relating to the conversion and/or improvement of one hundred and fifty-six houses have been lodged. Of these one has been refused and thirteen withdrawn. The overall expenditure approved by the County Council for grant purposes amounts to £170,521 and the grant-aid promised and/or paid to £52,278, 75% of the loan charges on which is met by the Exchequer and the remainder by the ratepayer.

### House Purchase and Housing Act, 1959—(as Amended)—Part II—Standard Grants

No new applications under these provisions were received during the year.

Since the inception of this scheme in 1960 only twelve applications have been made to the County Council and of these two have not been proceeded with. The overall expenditure approved for grant purposes approximates £4,309 and the total grants promised and/or paid £1,417, this latter being divided between central and local government in the same way as with the discretionary improvement grants.

### **Housing (Scotland) Act, 1952—Section 3**

No applications for grant-aid under the County Council's Scheme in terms of this Act were approved during the year. This Scheme provides grant-in-aid against the provision by private parties of new houses for occupation by agricultural workers, the grants being lump payments amounting to:

£240 in respect of a 3 apartment house, and

£300 in respect of a 4 apartment or larger house,

subject to conditions stipulating type, dimensions and facilities to be provided.

Since the inception of this Scheme in 1953, twenty-three applications have been approved by the County Council, of which four have not been proceeded with. These applications have resulted in the provision of twenty-one houses, the total grant sum involved being £6,060 of which, as with the other housing grants referred to above, 75% is borne by the taxpayer and 25% by the ratepayer.

### **Hill Farming and Livestock Rearing Acts**

165 farmhouses and farm cottages have been improved under the Hill Farming and Livestock Rearing Acts since their inception, 9 by conversion, while a further 26 new houses have been, or are being erected. The improvements range from minor repairs, installation of electricity, water supplies and drainage systems to full-scale modernisation.

### **Housing (Repairs and Rents) (Scotland) Act, 1954, and Rent Act, 1957**

These Acts, which enable tenants in certain circumstances to withhold increases of rent imposed by their landlords, have not been made use of in this County and no applications were received during 1967 for a Certificate of Disrepair.

### **Housing (Scotland) Acts, 1950, 1962 and 1966, and Housing (Repairs and Rents) (Scotland) Act, 1954—Unfit Houses**

One unfit house noted in last year's Report as having been made the subject of a Demolition Order was demolished on the tenant being rehoused. A further three houses were represented to the County Council as unfit for human habitation and incapable of being rendered so fit at reasonable cost. As a result of these representations, two Demolition Orders and one Closing Order were made.

As intimated in my last Report, the Housing (Scotland) Act, 1966, came into operation on 1st April, 1967. It reproduces in consolidated form without amendment the general housing provisions of the previous Housing (Scotland) Acts, and of certain other Scottish housing legislation. It does not vary the definition of "unfitness for human habitation" as set forth in Section 24(1) of the Housing (Scotland) Act, 1962, but does simplify the procedure to be adopted

by local authorities in considering the closure or demolition of unfit houses in that now, if satisfied, they make a Closing Order or Demolition Order as the case may be on a representation by their Medical Officer of Health or a report by their sanitary inspector. This is then subject to appeal to the local authority by the owner involved who may give a specific undertaking with regard to the future use of the house. If accepted by the local authority, this leads to the making of a Suspension Order suspending the effect of the Closing Order or Demolition Order, initially for one year but subject to extension at the will of the local authority.

## BUILDINGS AUTHORITY

Seventy-one applications for warrant were submitted to the buildings Authority during the year. These related to the following works, viz:

(1) Erection of new houses (Private Enterprise) ....	9
(2) Extension of and alterations to dwellinghouses, including provision of bathrooms, kitchenettes, additional accommodation etc., ....	20
(3) Erection of fuel oil storage tanks ....	2
(4) Erection of non-exempted agricultural buildings ....	4
(5) Erection of piggery ....	1
(6) Erection of poultry houses ....	2
(7) Erection of radio station ....	1
(8) Erection of garages (Minor) ....	10
(9) Erection of garage (Major) ....	1
(10) Erection of electrical sub-stations ....	2
(11) Erection of porches ....	3
(12) Erection of greenhouse .. ....	1
(13) Erection of huts ....	2
(14) Erection of fire escape ....	1
(15) Alterations to hotels ....	3
(16) Alterations to commercial garage ....	1
(17) Alterations to office ....	1
(18) Alterations to school ....	1
(19) Change of use—house to garage ....	1
(20) Change of use—agricultural building to offices ....	1
(21) Change of use—garages to bedrooms ....	2
(22) Change of use—tearoom to licensed inn ....	1
(23) Change of use—shop to tearoom ....	1
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In three cases there were subsequent applications for amendment warrants.

As a result of applications made to him in terms of Section 4 of the Building (Scotland) Act, 1959, by intending developers who found themselves unable for one reason or another to meet all the requirements of the Building Standards (Scotland) Regulations, 1963, the Secretary of State issued three directions to the buildings authority waiving conditionally the appropriate regulations.

These related to:

(1) Internal alterations to house ....	1
(2) Ventilation of a garage ....	1
(3) Fire escape at hotel ....	1

## Building Standards (Scotland) Amendment Regulations, 1967

The Building Standards (Scotland) Amendment Regulations, 1967, noted in my last report as being in draft form, were published during the year and came into operation on 1st September, 1967, amending by 78 new regulations the 199 regulations and 10 schedules of the original Building Standards (Scotland) Regulations, 1967. They alter, inter alia, the provisions governing the standards required for the construction of separating and compartment floors, garden huts, greenhouses and other buildings ancillary to houses, certain types of oil storage tanks and the requirements as to daylighting and space about houses. They also set special provisions for groups of garages erected on land reserved for that purpose, means of cleaning windows safely, and the construction of stairs not forming part of any access to houses or of an exit.

### TENTS, VANS AND SHEDS

One application for approval in terms of the Council's Byelaws relating to Tents, Vans and Sheds was lodged.

This related to the replacement of a hut on an approved site by a new structure.

### FACTORIES ACT, 1961

Data as to the action taken in terms of this Act is provided in the Report of the Medical Officer of Health.

### OFFICES, SHOPS AND RAILWAY PREMISES ACT, 1963

The number of premises registered in terms of the Act was as follows:

Class of Premises	Number of premises newly registered during the year	Total number of registered premises at end of year	Number of registered premises receiving one or more general inspection during the year	Number of Employees
Offices	1	12	10	42
Retail shops	—	8	8	22
Catering establishments open to the public, canteens	1	6	6	27
Totals	2	26	24	91
			Males	47
			Females	44



## **New Registrations**

Two businesses were registered for the first time during the year, one comprising new licensed catering premises and the other office accommodation converted from a disused farm steading. This latter superseded existing registered premises. In both cases the full requirements of the Act were met.

## **Deletions**

(1) The amalgamation of a small village Co-operative Society with that in a neighbouring Burgh resulted in the closure of one office and three shop premises. (2) The catering establishment at a Community Centre which was sold during the year was removed from the Register. (3) The one set of office premises which has been reported in previous annual reports as being unsatisfactory is now, as a result of a change in administrative policy, used only for brief periods rendering the premises outwith the scope of the Act and (4) the superseded office premises mentioned in the preceding paragraph were also removed from the Register.

## **General Inspection**

The opportunity was taken when visiting registered premises in the course of other statutory duties, to carry out general inspections on the majority of the premises coming within the powers of the Act but I consider that the number of visits carried out is short of what is desirable.

## **Accidents**

As in previous years there were no notifications of accidents involving persons employed in registered premises.

## **Exemptions**

No applications for exemption in terms of the Act have been made.

## **Prosecutions**

No prosecutions have been instituted by this Authority.

## **Dangerous Machines**

The guarding of prescribed dangerous machines continued to be carried out satisfactorily and the staff involved in the handling of the machines appeared to be fully conversant with the safety requirements.

## **Cleanliness**

The standard of cleanliness generally was found to be satisfactory although verbal notification was given in a few instances where back shop premises were below standard.



## **Staircases**

Written notice of the need to provide a handrail was given to the owners of one set of shop premises.

## **Overcrowding**

There is no overcrowding problem in any registered premises in this Area.

## **Temperature**

The owners of one set of shop premises were written to concerning the removal by them of the means of space heating in the front shop.

## **Lighting**

There is nothing to add to the comments made in previous reports.

## **Sanitary Accommodation, Washing Facilities and Drinking Water**

The premises remaining on our register are satisfactorily served in these respects.

## **Arrangements for Clothing, Seating and Eating**

Satisfactory arrangements continue to exist to meet the requirements of the Act.

## **First-Aid Equipment**

Minor deficiencies were noted in the first-aid boxes kept at one or two premises and the owners advised accordingly.

## **Noise and Vibration**

There was no problem of noise or vibration at any establishment covered by the Act.

## **General**

While it is recognised that the satisfactory administration of this Act can only be achieved by regular routine visits to the affected premises the continued pressure of other duties rendered this difficult to achieve.

## **ANIMAL BOARDING ESTABLISHMENTS ACT, 1963**

One establishment at which a business of providing accommodation for cats is carried on was licensed in the landward area of the County during the year.

## **RIDING ESTABLISHMENTS ACT, 1964**

One licence was renewed during the year in respect of riding stables near Peebles, but this lapsed on the sale of the premises.

## BURIAL GROUNDS

The maintenance of burial grounds throughout the landward area of the County is the responsibility of the County Supervisor of Buildings. All grounds in regular use are well maintained while those not in use are kept tidy and in reasonable repair within the limits of finance and labour.

## WATER SUPPLY

### General

There was no shortage of water during the year in any of the nine districts of the County served by public supplies.

The upward flow filtration plant providing the bulk of Walkerburn's water supply functioned without trouble and is proving a successful investment both from the point of view of treatment and of economy of maintenance.

The new supply to serve the village of Loanend, Dolphinton, was completed in April and has since functioned satisfactorily. The water is purchased in bulk from Lanark County Council and distributed via 2" diameter P.V.C. mains.

A new private supply to serve portions of Traquair Estate and the village of Traquair was also provided during the year and paid for on a user basis. The works involved the formation of a new intake on the Taniel Burn, a new upward flow filtration plant and 2" and 1½" P.V.C. distribution mains. Previously the village had received an untreated supply very subject to discoloration and excessive suspended solids content in times of spate.

This will be the last full calendar year in which the County Council will function as a "local water authority" as the Water (Scotland) Act, 1967, which received the Royal Assent on 27th July, 1967, established, inter alia, 13 Regional Water Boards to which will be transferred the functions of all existing local water authorities in Scotland. Peeblesshire County Council, together with the Counties of Roxburgh, Selkirk and Berwick, Edinburgh Corporation, East Lothian Water Board, part of West Lothian Water Board and all the small burghs within these areas have been brought within the South-East of Scotland Water Board which commences its duties on 16th May, 1968. It is thought likely, however, that for a short period thereafter the Board will wish the local water authorities to continue their functions on an agency basis to enable it to create the necessary organisation, administrative, financial and technical, to permit it to operate independently.

### Metered Supplies

The number of properties receiving metered water supplies from the County Council is as follows:

Private properties (hotels, farms, etc.)	....	....	....	....	52
County Council properties (public conveniences, schools, sewage works, etc.)	....	....	....	....	8

In addition, there are a further 15 master or other meters on the various mains throughout the County.

## Supplies against which Special Charges are Imposed

Water supplied to the undernoted businesses, agricultural and industrial undertakings, is charged on a scale laid down in the County Council's Scale of Charges levied in terms of Section 25 of the Water (Scotland) Act, 1949, in addition to any domestic water rate imposed on these properties:

(1) Cafes	3	(6) Refrigerators	2
(2) Joiner's Yards	2	(7) Motor Vehicles	25
(3) Builder's Yards	1	(8) Field Troughs	19
(4) Plumbers	2	(9) Sheep Dipper	1
(5) Shops (a) Grocer	4	(10) Garden Taps and/or Hoses	29
(b) Fruiterer	1		
(c) Butcher	2		
(d) Chemist	1		
(e) Baker	1		

## Water used in Building and Engineering Projects

Where mains water is used constructionally in building and civil engineering projects a charge is levied by the County Council as local water authority. In the past this has been at the rate of three times the meter charge per 1,000 gallons (currently 2/2d) per £100 of the overall cost of the contract (including all trades, water-consuming and otherwise) but during the past year it has been the Council's policy in cases where dry construction techniques are adopted, to make a charge of 2/2d per £100 and, where the construction is of a minor nature involving the use of little or no water to dispense with this charge entirely.

The following works fell to be so charged during the year:

Improvements, alterations, extensions, conversions, etc. of dwellinghouses, hall and shop	12
Erection of new houses	3

## Sampling

Samples for chemical analysis and bacteriological examination were procured from private supplies on request or where application for grant-aid in terms of Part VII of the Housing (Scotland) Act, 1950, or the Agriculture (Miscellaneous Provisions) Acts, 1941 and 1944, involved the testing of new sources of supply.

Twenty-six bacteriological and 22 chemical samples were taken as follows:

Reason for Sampling	Number of Samples Taken	
	Chemical	Bacteriological
Investigational Samples (Housing Grants, suspected pollution, new sources, etc.)	16	19
Routine Public Supplies	6	7

## SEWAGE DISPOSAL

Three only of the Special Drainage Districts warrant specific mention—Carlops, West Linton and Broughton.

Carlops sewage disposal plant comprises a detritus chamber, twin sedimentation tanks, biological filter and sludge lagoon and serves a population of about 120. The effluent was sampled on six occasions by the Pollution Prevention Department of the Lothians River Purification Board. One sample failed to meet the Board's standards for suspended solids content and the Board's Inspector is continuing to press the County Council to provide humus tank capacity to settle out the finer solids prior to discharging the effluent into the Carlops Burn.

The new sewage disposal plant to serve the village of West Linton and a near-by hutted camp school described in my last report was completed and went into service on 25th April, 1967, since which time it has operated very satisfactorily and yielded results well within the standards applied by the Tweed River Purification Board. It is too early, however, to assess whether it has been completely successful, for the first withdrawal of sludge from the digestion unit to the sludge beds has still to take place and it is the final condition of this that will largely determine the success of the plant. The mechanical maintenance of the plant on a one man half-day basis has so far proved satisfactory but I consider that the upkeep of the extensive grounds and increased maintenance, paintwork, etc., which must come in the future, will require a re-assessment of this arrangement.

As was foreseen, during the year the Tweed River Purification Board requested the County Council to consider the provision of a sewerage system and disposal plant for the village of Broughton, presently served by individual or communal septic tank systems and indeed in part by a sewer discharging untreated sewage to the Broughton Burn. The expenditure to be incurred on such a scheme is likely to be extremely heavy due to the scattered nature and geographical position of the village necessitating long lengths of small diameter "unproductive" sewer and involving at some stage the pumping of the sewage. On public health and amenity grounds, however, there can be no doubt as to the need of this provision and the Council have appointed consultant engineers to prepare a scheme to this end.

Once Broughton is dealt with, this will leave Skirling, Eddleston and Romanno Bridge as the only populous districts of the County where substantial sewerage and sewage disposal improvements are necessary.

Eight new septic tank installations to serve new or altered properties throughout the landward area of the County were inspected and approved during the year, all to this Department's model specification and to the satisfaction of the appropriate River Purification Board.



## PUBLIC CLEANSING

### General

As previously, the service continued to operate throughout the landward area of the County and a small part of Selkirkshire with a staff of foreman-driver, driver, 2 refuse loaders and 2 part-time tip attendants. The vehicles in use were 2 16/24 cub. yd. refuse collectors with mechanical refuse compression devices and one 18 cub. yd. dual tip vehicle which acted as a reserve collector/general purpose vehicle used regularly to transport waste gravel quarry material for tip blinding purposes.

The position with regard to the disposal of the refuse collected remains substantially as reported last year although there is some indication that agreement may be reached with the owner of the land on which we tip at Deepsykehead, West Linton, for a four year extension of the lease. Although fairly short-term this will at least provide a period of time in which to continue the search for an alternative site. The opportunity was taken to "sit-in" on discussions being held at official level on the refuse disposal problem which will be associated with the Borders Development presently the subject of a review by Professor Johnston-Marshall's Planning Unit but, not unexpectedly, it was found that, although there is the possibility of a new disposal plant being erected at Gala-shiels, the costs of this provision added to those of providing a bulk transfer depot and specialised transport in this County would be prohibitive so far as the local authorities in Peeblesshire are concerned.

### Litter

In recent years and particularly last year, I wrote at some length and somewhat bitterly about this problem which is apparently one which is here to stay and to increase, despite all the propaganda and legislation it has engendered.

I submitted two further reports on the matter to the Landward Health and Housing Committee during the year, and it is a measure of their concern that they agreed that allowance be made in the Estimates of Expenditure for 1968/69 for a litter collection service being inaugurated costing in its initial year £3,810. If approved, this is a very heavy burden to place on the comparatively few landward ratepayers in this thinly populated County, particularly when, by and large, it is not they who deposit the litter and its removal is as much in the aesthetic interests of incoming visitors from surrounding cities and towns as in theirs.

## CIVIC AMENITIES ACT, 1967

This Act received the Royal Assent on 27th July, 1967, and with certain exceptions, came into force a month later. Essentially, it makes important changes in the law with regard to amenity planning, Part I concerning the preservation of historic buildings and

areas, and Part II dealing with tree planting and preservation. Part III, however, has importance for public cleansing authorities in that it deals with the disposal of abandoned vehicles and other refuse.

Relating to the Landward Area of the County, the Act basically (1) makes it a duty of the County Council to provide places where the resident public may deposit domestic refuse of all sorts free of charge at all reasonable times; (2) makes it a statutory offence to abandon motor vehicles or anything else on any carriageway, right of way, or land in the open air without lawful authority, and (3) gives the County Council powers and duties in relation to the removal of abandoned motor vehicles and other refuse and to the compulsory acquisition of land for any of the purposes of Part III of the Act.

The financial repercussions on this County Council of carrying out their duties under this Act may turn out to be considerable, particularly with regard to the disposal of abandoned motor vehicles for, should the practice of abandoning unwanted vehicles increase, as seems likely, there is no destruction plant in or near the County capable of dealing with them, nor are there any scrap metal merchants really interested in such propositions. Even the removal to a central dump of the abandoned vehicles presents difficulties in that the cleansing department has neither specialised vehicles, equipment nor staff for the purpose.

## GENERAL

Finally, I should like to acknowledge my indebtedness to the members of the County Council, corporately and individually, for the support afforded to me in the execution of my duties and to thank Dr Riddell, the officials of other local authorities and of the central government, my colleagues and particularly my staff without whose ready assistance and co-operation my task could not have been done.

I. R. M. GUTHRIE,  
*County Sanitary Inspector.*

COUNTY BUILDING:,  
PEEBLES,  
30th April, 1968.









